

# *The* NATIONAL WOOL GROWER



Volume XXVII Number 2

FEBRUARY, 1937

Control of Lamb  
Price Changes

+

Reports of  
National and State  
Conventions

+

The Secretary's  
Report

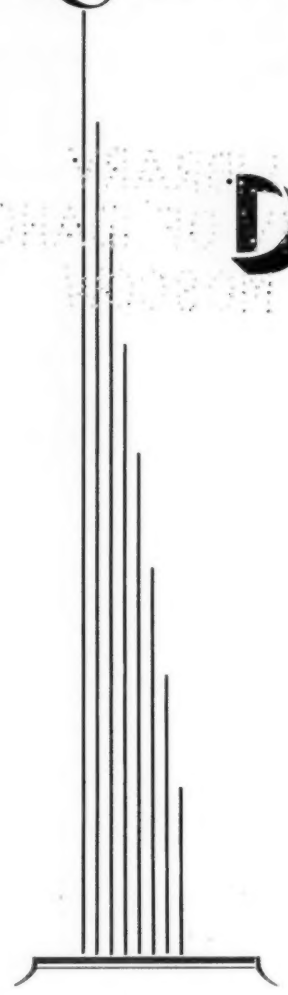
# *Local Slaughter*

*at*

# D E N V E R

is large, being 243,716 cattle, 368,529 hogs and 337,861 sheep in 1936, or a total of 950,106 head of livestock. This, of course, results in a daily dependable demand for this volume of livestock.

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# The National Wool Grower

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**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**—Payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association includes a year's subscription to the National Wool Grower. Dues and subscriptions are received along with state association dues by the secretaries shown for the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Texas, Washington and Wyoming. To non-members in the United States and Canada \$1.50 per year; foreign, \$2.00 per year.

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# Editorial Comment on Sheep and Wool Affairs

Members of the Department of State have resorted to misrepresentation of the position of opponents of the Argentine Sanitary Convention. Senators have been advised that

**Imports and Disease** the actual reason for producers' opposition is not the protection of the health of American livestock but complete prevention of meat imports.

Secretary Hull and Assistant Secretary Sayre must know, if they are conversant with the true facts, that American sheep and cattle producers are willing to meet competition in the markets of this country under the existing rates of duty on imported animals or their products. They are opposed to assumption of a very great risk of importing the foot-and-mouth disease into this country. That is the sole, and should be sufficient, reason for rejection of the joint proposal of the Argentine Ambassador and the American Secretary of State.

The State Department continues to emphasize that the sole effect of the proposed "convention" would be the opening of our markets to small quantities of lamb and mutton from Patagonia and that such imports would not come in anyway. They are

**Patagonia** not frank enough to explain that their proposal would empower appointed officers to admit meats from any part of the Argentine and probably of the world, for which there might be obtained a certificate that such area was at the time free from the foot-and-mouth disease. The Secretary has stated that Bureau of Animal Industry officials participated in framing the terms of the Argentine Sanitary Convention. We do not know what directions these officials were given, but the same men who in 1929 suggested the provision of law that embargoes against countries and not zones, are still in office.

The Secretary of the American National Live Stock Association has pointed out to Senators that, in 1925, in Merced County, California, the foot-and-mouth disease reappeared 345 days after the supposed complete cleaning up of the premises and the locality. This country would need to keep an army of veterinarians continuously on guard in Argentine to check for at least a year on any zone which might be claimed to be free from disease.

It is not a case of Patagonia. It is a question of imports from anywhere in Argentine and later, probably, from any or all other disease-ridden countries which may desire to enjoy our markets without meeting American standards of animal health or employing our policies and subjecting their producers to the same methods of prevention that are imposed upon American producers.

Incidentally, Patagonia is not recognized in Argentine as a political subdivision and its boundaries are not officially defined.

Considerable disappointment was expressed at the Albuquerque convention over the type of objection made by packer spokesmen against the proposal for compulsory grading and stamping of meat. The argument for the proposal was partially outlined in a non-controversial way by Mr. B. F. McCarthy of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. In attempting to convince producers of the dangers of official grading, Mr. Paul Smith, vice president of Swift and Company, relied chiefly on eulogy of a lamb carcass stamped as "cull," which hung upon the platform along with samples of the better government grades.

There is, of course, good ground for argument against action that may hinder the sale of any type of meat. But if cull meat should be exalted, then what protection can be given consumers wanting and willing to pay for the best quality, but who too often have inferior or cull meat delivered to them?

In the issue of Time for January 25, Mr. Smith was also shown as having advised the recent cattlemen's convention at El Paso that production of prime beef is a mistake, that well cooked ordinary beef is as tender as prime beef, and that average beef-eaters do not want the prime grade!

Can all this be true? Is not the meat from a well-bred and well-finished lamb more valuable than that from an underfed nondescript? Perhaps we are coming toward an understanding of what producers have been complaining about—too little recognition of quality in the pricing of lambs at the central markets.

An interesting suggestion for control of lamb market fluctuations is put forward in this issue of the Wool Grower by Mr. Renk of Wisconsin. A similar idea was advanced last spring by the chairman of the board

**To Steady Prices** of the Institute of American Meat Packers. A similar arrangement is in effect on the leading grain exchanges.

Mr. Renk's family has had large experience in the finishing and marketing of western lambs. Objections can be raised against the plan of limiting daily price changes, but plainly something needs to be done. Those interested are invited to send their views and suggestions to the Wool Grower.

## United States Orders A. & P. Company to Cease Deceptive Practices

**I**N October, 1935, the Secretary of Agriculture filed a complaint against the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company charging violation of the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921. A press release by Secretary Wallace on December 29, 1936, reports the issuance upon the defendant of an order to cease and desist from certain practices charged in the original complaint. The text of the release is as follows:

Secretary of Agriculture Wallace has ordered the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company, a New Jersey corporation, to cease and desist from various practices held to be in violation of the Packers and Stockyards Act. The 13-page report and order signed yesterday is the latest development in the so-called A. & P. brokerage case in which more than a year ago the U. S. Department of Agriculture charged that company with practices forbidden by the Packers and Stockyards Act and having the effect of giving the A. & P. Company an unfair advantage over its competitors. The order becomes effective February 2.

After reviewing the complaint and proceedings in the case, the Secretary, in the report just signed, summarizes the evidence obtained at a hearing and orders the company to cease and desist from the deceptive and unfair practices set forth in the report. These practices are: (1) Concealment of the true relationship existing between the company and an employee or agency authorized to purchase meat for its account; (2) permitting an employee to make misrepresentation to the effect that he is in the brokerage business when, in fact, he was purchasing meat supplies from meat packers for the company's account; and (3) permitting an employee of the company to collect from a meat packer a charge that exceeds the actual and reasonable expense incurred in providing the service rendered.

The Department previously charged that an employee, C. J. Noell of the A. & P. Company had collected "1, 2, and 3 per cent commissions" and had transmitted to the company those commissions, deducting only enough to pay his salary and the expenses of his office. This sort of activity, the Department stated, is forbidden under the Packers and Stockyards Act as having the effect of giving unfair advantage to the A. & P. Company over its competitors.

In response to the company's assertions denying that it is a packer as defined by the Packers and Stockyards Act, the government introduced witnesses and documents at the hearing, to show not only a large volume of shipments of meat in interstate

commerce, but also the application of different kinds of treatment and processing of meat at the company's various warehouses. From such findings of fact, Secretary Wallace concludes that the company engaged in the business of both manufacturing and preparing meats and meat food products for shipment in interstate commerce and was continually a packer as defined in section 201, title II, of the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921. This point, according to Department officials, is one that concerns various companies not engaged in slaughtering operations but which process and distribute meat in interstate commerce.

The report, just signed, refers to efforts of the Institute of American Meat Packers to stop the unfair trade practice described in the Department's complaint. Citing dates and specific collections and expenses, the report shows that receipts by C. J. Noell of so-called brokerage fees during a period of about 21 months exceeded office expenses by more than \$180,000 and that the A. & P. Company received this money without the knowledge of many packers who supplied the meat.

## In Memoriam

### ERNEST WINKLER

Mr. Ernest Winkler, chief of the Division of Wildlife and Range Management of Region No. 4 of the United States Forest Service, died at Ogden, Utah, on Thursday, December 31, following a heart attack.

Mr. Winkler had been associated with the United States Forest Service since July 14, 1905, when he received his appointment as a forest guard on the Manti National Forest in Utah. In November of that year he was advanced to the position of assistant forest ranger, became forest ranger in 1908 and assistant supervisor in 1909. In 1913 Mr. Winkler was appointed forest supervisor of the Fishlake National Forest and in 1916 was transferred to the No. 4 regional office at Ogden, Utah, as inspector of grazing. In April, 1923, he was named chief of the Division of Wildlife and Range Management of Region No. 4.

Born in the West, at Manti, Utah, in 1877, and spending his early youth on a cattle ranch and later working with sheep, Mr. Winkler had a very sympathetic understanding and appreciation of the western stockmen's problems and gave evidence of such appreciation in his working relations with them.

Mrs. Winkler and four sons and daughters survive.

### ROBERT D. CAREY

Mr. Robert D. Carey, former United States senator and governor of Wyoming, died suddenly of heart attack on January 17 at Cheyenne, Wyoming, at the age of 58.

Senator Carey was born in Cheyenne. He

was graduated from Yale University and was a member of the Yale Club of New York. He had been associated with the livestock industry for many years, and had been a member of the American National Live Stock Association for many years. Previous to his term as governor of Wyoming in 1919-23, he was engaged in irrigation enterprises. He served as chairman of a conference that conducted a survey of agricultural conditions in the United States in 1924, by appointment of the late President Coolidge. He filled the unexpired term of the late Senator Francis E. Warren and was elected for the next full term, but was defeated for reelection last November. He was always a champion for the causes of the stockman.

The former Senator is survived by his wife, a daughter, and a son.

### WILL C. BARNES

Mr. W. C. Barnes, member of the United States Forest Service from 1907 to 1928, died at his home in Phoenix, Arizona, on December 17, at the age of 78.

San Francisco was the place of Mr. Barnes' birth. In 1880 he went to Arizona as a United States Army telegrapher and was stationed at Fort Apache. A year later he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor "for bravery in action against the hostile Apache Indians." Leaving the Army, he engaged in the cattle business near Holbrook, Arizona. He served in the territorial legislature as a representative from Apache County and subsequently became chairman of the Arizona Live Stock Sanitary Board. Since his retirement from the Forest Service Mr. Barnes has lived at Phoenix. In addition to his activity in state and national affairs, Mr. Barnes was an author of some note. In former years the National Wool Grower published several of his short stories. He is survived by his wife, Edith Talbot Barnes.

### ARTHUR C. JOHNSON

Mr. Arthur C. Johnson, well-known editor of the Denver Daily Record Stockman, died following a week's illness from influenza on January 9.

Mr. Johnson was born in Denver, July 13, 1874.

His newspaper work began in the early nineties on the Rocky Mountain News. During the Spanish American War he was stationed at Manila as a member of the First Colorado Infantry and acted as correspondent for the News in that city. Later he served as correspondent in the Orient for the New York Sun, Chicago Record, and Collier's Weekly.

Upon his return to the United States, Mr. Johnson became the secretary of his uncle, Senator Thomas M. Patterson, in Washington, D. C., later working there on the Washington Post, the Washington Herald, and Associated Press. In 1919 he purchased an interest in the Denver Daily Record Stockman and continued as its editor to the time of his death.

## Recent Developments in Taylor Act Administration

ON January 30, the United States Senate confirmed the appointment of F. R. Carpenter as director of the Division of Grazing in the Department of the Interior. This action was made necessary through an amendment added to the Taylor Grazing Act on June 26, 1936.

### New Rule on Priority

Some important changes in regulations were published on January 28. The most important is one concerning priority. During the two years of procedure under the Taylor law, rules for establishing priority have been made in accordance with local conditions by the various district boards, in consultation with officials of the Division of Grazing. At the second annual conference of members of advisory boards, held last December, a proposal to establish a uniform rule to govern priority in all districts was voted down. This action of the conference has now been reversed at Washington and the matter removed from the jurisdiction of the boards.

Under the new rule, which is to apply in all districts, regardless of the views of the board members, they must recognize as having priority any applicant who has used the range for any one full grazing season within five years before the establishment of the district. This applies to owners of dependent commensurate property. It is estimated by some grazing officials that the above change of rule will qualify a sufficient number of new applicants to necessitate a 50 per cent reduction in the numbers of livestock now under license in many sections.

Aside from the very doubtful legality of the new priority rule, this arbitrary reversal of the expressed desires and recommendations of the conference of district board members raises a still more important question. Is the Division of Grazing sincere in its protestations of intention to give the boards the ruling voice in administering the affairs of the districts? Or, are the boards in

effect set up to be used as a buffer between officialdom and licensees, permitted to have their way when it suits Washington or to be ignored or reversed when their views do not coincide with those held by the Department of the Interior? Members of boards should study this situation even while continuing to draw \$5 per diem.

The following reprint from the new regulations includes the most important changes and covers the question of priority:

A qualified applicant will be considered in preferred classification if he is a member of any one of the following four classes:

1. Landowners engaged in the livestock business.
2. Bona fide occupants.
3. Bona fide settlers.
4. Owners of water or water rights.

The following definitions will assist in determining who belongs in said classes:

AN OCCUPANT to be bona fide must show that he actually occupies land to the exclusion of others for at least the period for which such land is subject to grazing. Such exclusive occupation may be by fencing or otherwise excluding trespassers. Posting notices unaccompanied by actual possession, or part-time seasonal use by grazing livestock, will not be considered occupancy. Any land claimed to be occupied must be held under a right such as to entitle the applicant to possession. (Lands to which the applicant has no lawful right of occupation cannot be made the basis of a claim of bona fide occupation.)

A BONA FIDE SETTLER is one who maintains actual residence under lawful authority on the land to the exclusion of a residence elsewhere.

AN OWNER OF WATER OR WATER RIGHTS must show that it is for stock watering purposes and held under proper authority from the state.

Qualified preferred applicants will be given licenses to graze the public range insofar as available and necessary to permit a proper use of the lands, water, or water rights owned, occupied, or leased by them.

In determining the proper use of land or water, the following definitions will guide:

PROPERTY shall consist of land and its products or stock water owned or controlled and used according to local custom in livestock operations. Such property is:

- (a) DEPENDENT if public range is required to maintain its proper use.
- (b) NEAR if it is close enough to be used in connection with public range in usual and customary livestock operations.

In case the public range is inadequate for all the near properties, then those which are nearest in distance and accessibility to the public range shall be given preference over those not so near.

(c) Commensurate for a license for a certain number of livestock if such property provides proper protection according to local custom for said livestock during the period for which the public range is inadequate.

When the available range is insufficient to meet the requirements of all in the preferred class, such class will be divided into two groups as follows:

1. Those who have dependent commensurate property which has been used in connection with the public range for a full grazing season during the 5-year period immediately preceding the passage of the act or its amendment (under whichever the district was created).

In any district in which the regional grazier is convinced that the establishment of groups according to the above rule is unsuited to local conditions and will not permit an effective and orderly administration of the act in that particular district, he may recommend a different period of use as a standard for the establishment of groups in such district, provided that such proposed new rule shall not be operative until approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

2. Those who do not have such prior use.

ISSUANCE OF LICENSES—After residents within or immediately adjacent to a grazing district having dependent commensurate property are provided with range for not to exceed ten (10) head of work or milch stock kept for domestic purposes, the following-named classes, in the order named, will be considered for licenses:

1. Qualified applicants of the preferred class who have prior use.
2. Qualified applicants of the preferred class who do not have such prior use.
3. Qualified applicants who are not in the preferred class.

### The Status of Advisory Boards

On February 1 the bill to give legal recognition to district grazing boards was introduced in Congress by Senator McCarran of Nevada.

Apparently the chief object of this bill is to give legal status to local boards. The proposed legislation, however, strictly limits members of such board to acting in an advisory capacity. They would be empowered to make recommendations but their proposals would be entirely subject to review or reversal by the regular officials of the Department of the Interior. Also the Secretary of the Interior would have full power to remove board



members and to appoint their successors. It is difficult to see how enactment of the proposed legislation would change the present situation.

### Reducing Livestock Numbers

The fourth number of the official publication of the Division of Grazing was published last month. It is entitled "The Grazing Bulletin."

The Bulletin shows that there have now been established a total of 49 districts in eleven states. The area of vacant public land included in these districts is 110,173,499.

Numbers of livestock authorized to be grazed under license during the year 1936 were 14 per cent below the number licensed for the previous year. In 1935 a total of 15,081 licenses were issued in 34 districts. These licenses covered 1,550,776 cattle and 6,739,808 sheep. During 1936, the number of districts had been increased by three and the total number of licenses decreased by fourteen. At the same time, the decrease in licensed cattle was 216,791 and in sheep 898,376.

### Lamb Prices to Advance—Wool Prices to Hold

**F**IRM and improving prices for wool and lambs are forecast by the United States Department of Agriculture in the first issue of The Sheep and Lamb Situation for January, 1937. This publication is one of a new set of commodity reports to be issued monthly by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The official summary of the report reads:

Slaughter supplies of sheep and lambs probably will be reduced seasonally during the remainder of the 1936-37 fed-lamb marketing season, through April, 1937. Although the number of lambs on feed for market on January 1 was only 4 per cent smaller than a year earlier, the number on feed in areas which usually market lambs late in the season was considerably smaller.

Consumer demand for dressed lamb in 1937 probably will be stronger than in 1936. Because of the importance of the pelt as a by-product of sheep and lamb slaughter, prices of wool also affect prices of live lambs. Wool prices rose sharply in the last half of 1936, and it seems probable that they will be well maintained in the first half of the present year.

Lamb prices rose sharply in late Decem-

ber and early January, with the top price at Chicago reaching \$11, the highest since last summer. Slaughter supplies of sheep and lambs were large in December, but there was some tendency for market receipts to decrease throughout the month and in early January. In view of the probable further improvement in the demand for dressed lamb, the high level of wool prices and prospective seasonal reduction in slaughter supplies, lamb prices are expected to advance further during the remainder of the current fed-lamb marketing season. Much of this advance is likely to occur in March and perhaps April.

### The World's Gold Supply

**I**N the campaign of 1932 many of the leading economists declared that the depression was due to the world's vanishing supply of gold. These wise men declared that we could not again be prosperous unless we adopted some other more abundant metal as a money base, or reduced the number of grains of gold in the dollar.

Let us see what has happened since 1932. In the ten years preceding 1931, the world annually produced around three hundred million to four hundred million dollars' worth of new gold. In 1932 gold production increased and it has increased each year since that time. In 1935 production reached 31,620,000 ounces—the most the world had ever produced up to that time. Then came 1936 with a gold production of 34,000,000 ounces, worth \$1,190,000,000, an all-time record.

In 1936, even the United States produced more new gold in dollars than ever before, and in the month of December last, the Denver mint took in more new gold than in any month since the mint was established.

Gold has been more sought after over a longer period of time than any other metal. It cannot be told how long gold has been mined, but certainly for more than 4,000 years; yet this great natural resource seems inexhaustible. Indeed, the world now has too much gold, and the United States has decidedly too much. In fact, our gold supply is now so excessive that our nation has actually taken four billion dollars out of circulation on which we are annually paying in interest more than \$120,000,000. We have buried in a

stabilization fund two billion dollars and two billion more has been withdrawn from circulation — the theory being that if this gold went into circulation it would cause inflation.

This increase in gold production comes in response to a very sound law—that of supply and demand. When the price of gold increased as measured in other commodity values, men began the production of gold. Under the same law, as commodity values increase, the production of gold should decrease.

In 1932 one dollar of gold bought 120 pounds of wheat. Today one dollar of gold buys 60 pounds of wheat, although it is not the same kind of gold. As it becomes more profitable to do other things, it becomes less profitable to produce gold. S. W. McClure

### 1936 Wool Consumption

**M**ILL consumption of shorn wools for clothing purposes in 1936 has been reported by the U. S. Department of Commerce at 496,735,000 pounds. This is about 12 per cent below the consumption in 1935 and 23 per cent above that of 1934. Eighty-three per cent of this consumption was domestic wool.

In addition to the above a total of 80 million pounds of packers' pulled wool was used in the manufacture of clothing. This is equal to 120 million pounds of ordinary shorn wool. Twenty per cent of the pulled wool was imported.

### Reduced Rates on Hay

**E**MERGENCY weather conditions in California have been recognized as justifying special freight rates on hay shipped in for feeding sheep and cattle. The situation is most serious in the Sacramento Valley where it is expected that general feeding of livestock units will be necessary until March.

The reduced freight rates on hay were made effective on February 3. They apply from points in Washington, Oregon, Arizona and southern California to the Sacramento Valley.

Stockmen at Fresno were feeding hay at the close of January, but no shortage was reported at that time.

# Around the Range Country

## WYOMING

Moderate to severely cold weather prevailed through the month with frequent but mostly light snowfall. The cold weather was quite severe on livestock, though as feed was plentiful and much of the range was open, no exceptional losses were reported. Some complaint is registered of a shortage of prospective water supplies, except in the extreme western portion. Snow was deep enough in the west, and in some southern sections, to blockade highway traffic at times.

### Cowley

It has been very cold during the month of January and feed, also, has been short. Lower temperatures were registered than for several years past at this time of the year and feed has been scarcer than in previous years. A larger number of range sheep, of course, are on feed (January 30). While alfalfa hay in the stack has been priced at \$10, during the past 30 days it could be bought at \$8 on isolated ranches off the main or good roads.

Breeding has been done on about the same scale as in the previous season. Sheepmen did not retain very many of their ewe lambs last fall, about a fourth fewer than in preceding years.

Coyotes are gaining in numbers every day and are more vicious and bolder. Several factors, I think, have operated to produce this condition. First, the prices of furs have been very low until recently; secondly, there has been no state or county bounty, and lastly, very few government trappers have been at work in this section.

There have been no cases of liquidation that I know of around here. Interest rates vary from 6 to 8 per cent. During the past year, the increased courtesy on the part of bankers to wool growers has been quite noticeable.

J. S. S.

The notes on weather conditions, appearing under the names of the various states in *Around the Range Country*, are furnished by J. Cecil Alter of the U. S. Weather Bureau and based upon reports and publications for the month of January.

The Wool Grower welcomes and desires communications from interested readers in any part of the country for this department of the Wool Grower and also invites comment and opinions upon questions relating to the sheep industry and of importance and significance to wool growers.

## MONTANA

Typical blizzard conditions prevailed much of the month, temperatures being exceptionally low and snows deep and drifting as the result of strong winds. The weather was thus decidedly unfavorable for livestock that were not well fed and sheltered. As a rule, however, feed was plentiful and livestock have held up satisfactorily under the circumstances. Highways were blocked frequently, making access difficult to isolated herds. The exceptional duration of deep snow cover and excessively low temperatures resulted in more or less losses among sheep.

### Knobs

The weather at present (January 5) is cold with about three inches of snow on the level and grazing pretty short.

Around here, most of the sheep have been shipped out, and only small bunches are left and they are mostly young sheep.

The cost of hay is \$18 to \$20 at the railroad and \$14 is being charged for sweet clover threshed. No wool, so far, has been contracted.

Coyotes are on the increase and have been very destructive the past year.

Walter S. White

### Wisdom

We have to feed all winter, but had open range until Christmas. Since then it has been cold and stormy. While

November and December brought us better conditions than at that time in 1935, January has been much severer than that month of 1936.

Wild, mixed hay in the stack is selling at \$7.50 a ton. This makes the best fattening and wintering hay known in the Big Hole Basin. There is a surplus of about 10,000 tons of hay in this valley.

All the Big Hole Basin wools, with the exception of a few clips, have been contracted. During January the contract prices on fine wool in this section were 34 and 35 cents.

About the usual number of ewe lambs were kept last fall for breeding purposes and about the same number of ewes have been bred to lamb this spring as a year ago.

Loans can be secured by sheepmen at 8 per cent interest from regular banks and from 5 to 5½ per cent through government agencies.

Ralph W. Jorgenson

### Knobs

Conditions here are very bad (January 11). It was dry all last summer and there has been no grazing and no hay to cut. No hay was raised and I do not know what is paid for that shipped in.

Nearly all our ewe lambs were shipped out last fall. The number of ewes bred was very much smaller than was the case last year.

Coyotes are not hunted as much as formerly and therefore are on the increase.

I have been paying 8 per cent for borrowed money and believe most of the other sheepmen around here are paying a similar rate.

L. B. Huntoon

### Columbus

The snowfall has been light (January 26), but feeding is necessary, as the range is very poor. Ten dollars is the price of alfalfa hay in the stack.

About a third fewer ewes are bred to lamb this spring as compared to last year; many bands of sheep have been sold as a result of the grasshopper plague last summer.

Little contracting of wool has been going on here within recent weeks.

Sheepmen can borrow money at 5 per cent interest through the Production Credit Association. Regular banks are increasing their loans to sheepmen. Have not heard of any forced liquidation.

Henry Keating

### Chinook

The weather is severe (February 2) and there is no feed on the range. Conditions are very much worse than I have ever seen them in the past 48 years. Our hay supply is exhausted. Earlier in the fall, it was selling at \$15 a ton, but now there is none offered.

I have no way of knowing how the number of ewes bred to lamb this season compares with last year; personally I have only bred about half as many as a year ago. On a whole, I think the number of ewe lambs kept last fall for replacements compares very well with that of previous years.

If something could be done to stop feed dealers from boosting prices every time we get a storm, that would be an immense help. It looks as if they would pick our bones, regardless of the future. I paid \$48 a ton for Argentine corn in November.

Jerome A. Kearful

### IDAHO

The month was unusually cold, one or two weeks being severely cold. Added to this inclemency, deep snows fell and were badly blown by strong winds. Highways were blockaded at times, and conditions were severe on both cattle and sheep, particularly animals on the open range. Feed was plentiful, and domestic livestock held up fairly well. No important losses were reported.

### WASHINGTON

Unusually cold weather prevailed, with moderate to excessive precipita-

tion generally. Excessively deep snow occurred, blockading highways and making work with livestock very difficult. Full feeding was necessary, and many livestock suffered appreciable shrinkages, though losses have been comparatively light. Some lambing was reported in the western portion, with satisfactory results.

### Walla Walla

Conditions are about 75 per cent of normal so far as weather and feed are concerned. If one has enough hay and grain, he is all right. The ground is frozen with a light snow cover and some dry feed (January 28). About the usual number of range sheep are getting hay or grain as in previous years. Before the recent storm, hay was selling at \$10 a ton in the stack.

Breeding was done on about the same scale as a year ago.

I have not heard of any wool being contracted recently.

Coyotes are numerous, due to lack of trappers.

Wool growers are paying 5 per cent interest on their loans, which are handled through the Production Credit Association. Not much expansion has been noted in the amount of loans to stockmen from the regular banks.

Byron D. Reser

### Yakima

Weather and feed conditions during January have not been at all good. Temperatures have at times been around zero and there have been many snowstorms, not heavy ones, but accompanied some times with a good deal of wind—tougher going than usual. Practically all the sheep must have had hay or grain since the first of the year. The regular price of alfalfa hay is \$10 a ton.

I do not believe any wool is being contracted now (January 28), although 30 cents and over has been suggested for good lots of crossbred wool.

Very few outfits are being forced to liquidate at this time. The tendency seems to be to permit them to work out of their indebtedness. Seven and 8 per cent interest rates are being

charged, which is sure plenty. The regular banks are increasing the extent of their loans somewhat to new outfits, who, of course, have an excellent opportunity now to make good while the older ones pay interest on old indebtedness.

About the usual number of ewes have been bred to lamb this spring.

C. H. Van Amburg

### Wapato

The winter range has been good, but cold weather necessitates grain and light hay feeding to keep the ewes in good condition (January 26). There is more snow on the ground now than at this same time a year ago. Hay is fairly plentiful at \$10 a ton.

We'll be lambing out about one third fewer ewes this season than last.

Thirty-five cents has been offered for crossbred wools recently, but no contracts that I know of were made.

Interest rates range from 8 to 10 per cent. There is very little liquidation going on and in a few cases the regular banks are enlarging their accounts with sheepmen.

Dr. R. A. Perry

### Ellensburg

The range conditions in this section since December 1 have been exceedingly dry. We had no moisture until after Christmas. The weather favored us then with a few inches of snow which has stayed on the ground. Sub-zero temperatures have been predominant since the first of the year. All feed on the winter ranges is cured grass and no green feed at all during the fall. The growth was fair because of a good spring, but lack of moisture failed to change its texture. The price of alfalfa hay (January 13), is ranging from \$7.50 to \$10 in the stack, depending upon the grade and the cutting.

The number of ewes bred to lamb in 1937, I think, compares favorably with a year ago. The number of ewe lambs held over is much larger in this area. The ages of the ewe bands are still pretty high, in spite of the fact that the breeders are endeavoring to reduce their age average.



Coyotes are numerous and bold. Because of drought conditions, they have had to hunt pretty close in, and trappers have been quite successful.

There have been no wools, that I know of in this immediate vicinity, that have been contracted. I have heard that a couple of small clips went at 30 and 31 cents and one very good clip, tending towards the fine, at 35 cents.

There has been considerable liquidation of sheep outfits by the creditors, especially of the short-band operators. Most of the wool growers are paying from 7 per cent to 8 per cent for their money. There doesn't seem to be any indication of regular banks increasing their loans to sheepmen. However, on select accounts, they seem to be quite willing to do business. The general trend, I believe, is to get out from under them.

The sheepmen seem to be quite optimistic over the anticipated prices for the spring clip, but if severe weather conditions continue, they will use a lot of their anticipated profits in wool to buy additional high-priced feed.

O. H. Holmes, Jr.

### Macall

The early part of January feed conditions on the range were about normal for this section of the country, with plenty of old grass available and a light covering of snow. From the 12th of January on to the 3rd of February, weather conditions were very severe, with over a foot of snow that drifted so badly it was impossible for the sheep to get through it. Also, severe sub-zero weather prevailed most of the time.

At this time (February 4) a mild Chinook is settling the snow rapidly. Practically all the sheep and livestock have been on heavy feed during this period. I believe the past month to have been much severer than any like period for the past two or three years.

In this section of the state there is very little alfalfa grown, the hay that is grown and fed is mostly wheat hay. There is very little if any for sale and it would cost from \$10 to \$12 in the stack, at least. Most growers raise

only what hay they need for their own use.

About the same number of ewes will lamb this spring as of a year ago and the carryover of ewe lambs for replacements is a little greater than a year ago.

The coyote situation is just about the same as it has been the past few years, which is plenty bad. I believe that if the Biological Survey could put enough trappers in the field and cover small areas with a larger field force, some headway might be made, but as it is now, with one man trying to cover the larger part of two counties, it just cannot be done. It is true the hunters pick up a few coyotes here and there, but they must spend about half of their time traveling back and forth, and as a result they are not able to put very much time in any one place. If the fur were more valuable and an adequate bounty placed on the coyote, I believe private trapping would be stimulated to a large extent and result in keeping the predators pretty well thinned out.

Very little Washington wool has been contracted to date, just a few clips of crossbred and half-blood wools at from 31 to 35 cents. I don't know of any fine wools that have been contracted.

So far as I know, there has been no forced liquidation in this part of the state. Most of the range outfits are financed through the Production Credit Association at 5 per cent interest, and are very well pleased with these association set-ups.

While there has been some credit extended sheepmen through the regular banks at 7 to 8 per cent interest, I don't believe that many of the outfits that have had government credit have availed themselves of such credit. The banks, however, are still carrying quite a few loans that they have had for the past six or seven years.

G. E. McDougall

### OREGON

Abnormally cold weather prevailed, one or two weeks bringing exceptionally cold weather. Precipitation has been fairly heavy in most sections. The

winter grain areas were mostly covered with deep snow, highways in those regions being blocked at times. A slight to moderate loss of lambs was reported because of extremely cold weather and deep snow cover, but hay was abundant, and most livestock have done fairly well.

### Roberts

Feed is good (January 18), but the amount of snow forced my sheep to the feed lot about December 25. We have no winter ranges in this grazing unit. From \$10 to \$12 is being charged for alfalfa hay in the stack, while wild hay is about \$2 less.

Most of our ewes are of good ages, that is, they range from one to five years. There is no marked change in the size of the breeding bands in comparison with those of a year ago. Also, the retention of ewe lambs last fall was about on the same scale as in previous years.

Coyotes are on the increase. The only way to get rid of them is by having a bounty. In my opinion, government and private trappers do not get as many coyotes as a bounty will. Coyotes are getting thicker every year and are causing a lot of damage annually.

Thirty cents was the figure in the last contract made around here for 1937 fine wools.

A good many outfits were closed out last fall, but there has not been any recent liquidation.

J. A. Pausch

### Antelope

The range has been under snow since December 26; there's about two feet there now (January 26). But at that conditions are about 100 per cent better than they have been in recent years, when the ground was mostly bare and frozen. I think about 5 per cent more range sheep than usual are getting supplemental feed. Alfalfa hay has been selling at \$10 a ton in the stack, but it has become quite scarce, and shipped in, it is costing \$16.50.

(Continued to page 53)

# Control of Lamb Price Changes

OUR lamb market certainly has been unsatisfactory. It is hard to understand why lamb should sell so low in comparison with other meats. I was recently talking to a buyer on the Chicago market and he said that the lamb market was never satisfactory. He stated that when the lamb market gets bad it is awful and when it is good it is really hot. Personally I believe such a market has had consequences and at best makes lamb feeding a big gamble.

I believe that the lamb market should be regulated for the good of the sheep industry. Definite limits should be put on the advance or decline registered in one day. In other words it couldn't go up or down more than, say, either 10 cents or 25 cents a day. This would make for a more stable market and would make lamb feeding a more certain venture. It would affect the fat lamb market, the dressed market, and the feeder market. May I elaborate?

I said it would make for a more stable market. If feeders knew that the market couldn't advance or drop more than 10 cents a day they wouldn't rush their lambs to market. They would ship them in the normal course of events.

With modern transportation and communication, lambs can be moved over night. Take the Chicago market for example. One day last year the market went up 50 cents. The next day's estimate was 9000. After the trucks had run all night, the trade woke up to find 19,000 lambs on sale. The trucks alone brought in 9000. A deluge of lambs like this is bound to break the live market as well as the dressed trade. And it adds a lot of congestion. If the market were more stable, lambs wouldn't be rushed or held. They would be marketed in an orderly fashion. The packer could then rely on his men having a definite amount of work each week, and a steady number of carcasses would go into consumption. This would result

in a more stable dressed trade, and after all the dressed trade determines the live market.

As we all know, the grain market has fixed limits to stabilize it. The argument might be advanced that limits wouldn't work in the livestock market because the commodity is alive and shrinks, and thus must be sold daily. But it is doubtful if any lambs would be carried over, because the commission men and the packers would each have one advantage. The packer could say, "I won't take the lambs today because they should be lower than ten cents." "Hold on," the commission man could say a week afterwards, "I won't sell today because I should be getting more than a 10-cent raise." Thus in the natural course of events the commission man and the packer would have to work together, because if they didn't they would cut each other's throats. I believe they would work together.

It might be argued that the packers could get around this by lowering the grade of the lambs. Well, your commission man represents you, and he knows lambs. I doubt if you could pull the wool over his eyes that easy.

In other words, stabilizing would make for a slowly rising or lowering market instead of a runaway or a calamity. It would mean that you wouldn't get rich quick but it would also mean that you wouldn't be in the poor house tomorrow.

To a large feeder, the sudden whirlwinds in the fat lamb market don't spin so hard, but to the small feeder or grower who hits a demoralized market it many times means the loss of his entire profit. This is enough to discourage any man. Flighty markets make for direct buying, and is it any wonder? Let's take a specific case. A grower out in Montana is bid 7 cents at home. He knows it costs about a \$1.60 per hundredweight to ship lambs to Chicago. The market is 9 cents in

Chicago so he orders cars and ships 2,000 lambs. It will take his lambs, say, six days to get to Chicago. The market suddenly hits the skids and when his lambs are marketed the top is \$7.75. If his lambs weighed 80 pounds, that man lost 68 cents a head, or \$1,360. It's true that the market could have advanced that much, but it always seems harder to push it up than to make it fall. Then, too, current conditions make it expedient to be surer of one's ground. Present financial difficulties require a definite price rather than a fantastic profit that ninety-nine times out of a hundred doesn't materialize.

Thus we have much direct selling of both fat and feeder lambs. In the case of both kinds I believe the influence on the market is bad. I will analyze the feeder lamb situation. Direct buying of feeders seldom seems to be based on their value on the market. Rather it seems a race between speculators, farmers, and feeders, and that usually means the lambs aren't bought on their market value. It is getting so that lambs are contracted four months in advance because of the fear that a good supply will not be available in the fall. Well, I guess you might as well play the stock market, because you can't lose any more there. If you do lose, you take your loss and are finished, while if you contract feeding lambs and lose you still have the lambs on your hands and might have another loss on the feeding venture. One loss is staggering; but two on one venture is devastating.

Lamb must go into consumption channels immediately because it is a fresh meat. Although it can be frozen, this lowers its value. So if the receipts could be distributed there would be a more regular price. There is no authority which can require Wisconsin feeders to ship Monday and Colorado feeders to ship Tuesday; but anything that would tend toward a more even marketing would help.

When you have heavy receipts one day and light ones the next it taxes both the dressed trade and the killing gang. Let's discuss the dressed trade first: At the end of the week the branch houses like to clean out their coolers. Now if you have abnormal receipts and the dressed product can't move into consumption, the packers cut the price so that the lamb will move. What is the consequence? Your branch house out in Madison, Wisconsin, wires in that lambs moved at a \$2 discount; Schenectady, New York, wires in the same, so does Des Moines, Iowa. Thus on Monday morning you have a bad market. Now if you get away from these big receipts your dressed trade wouldn't be cluttered so much. It is true that dressed lamb wouldn't move so well all the time, but the packers wouldn't have to dump the carcasses at the week-end sacrifice sale as they sometimes have to do.

Let's look at the killing gang side. They are hired by the week. With heavy receipts one day they are rushed, and the next day when receipts are lighter they hang around. Now on some of the light-receipt days the packers buy lambs to keep the gang going and many times buy feeder lambs. Thus they are competing with the feeders and putting a false value on feeding lambs, and at the same time are killing an inferior grade of meat. This inferior grade is eaten or bolted down (depending on how thin the lamb is) by the public, and it doesn't leave a good taste in the mouth. Lamb was never the working man's meat; it has been the rich man's delicacy. Now there are too many lambs for the rich, or if you prefer, not enough rich men, and so we try to persuade the working man to adopt it. But you can't hope to woo him with thin, tough, off-colored lamb.

Of course it's fun to hit a hot market, but a pain in the neck to hit a bad one. And it doesn't seem reasonable that one day lambs should be \$11 and the next day \$10.25. They were the same lambs from the same lot, split in two, and they were, I imagine, both hung on the same rack in the same

packer's cooler. With a regulated market a price drop like this would be impossible. Our present set-up is unsatisfactory both for the producer and the feeder. The uncertainties are so great that profits and losses don't come in small sizes any more; they come in large figures. I believe that this could be averted to a great extent with a stabilized market which would apply limitations on rises and falls. This would tend toward more evenly distributed receipts throughout the week, and would create a healthier market. A person could figure out where he was headed for. It would encourage a better product and arouse keener competition on the live and dressed market. It would make sheepmen younger and healthier. And one thing is certain—it couldn't be worse than it is now.

Sun Prairie, Wis. Wilbur N. Renk

[The columns of the Wool Grower are open for a full discussion of Mr. Renk's interesting proposal. The grain exchanges now operate under a rule that limits daily price changes.—Editor.]

## The Cattlemen's National Convention

THE fortieth annual meeting of the American National Live Stock Association was held at El Paso, Texas, January 12-13-14.

The substance of resolutions adopted as printed below is taken from the official statement appearing in the association's publication, *The American Cattle Producer*.

Ratification of the Argentine sanitary pact must be opposed, because foot-and-mouth disease would certainly sweep the country if our present embargo were tampered with.

The Reciprocal Trade Act should be repealed, as it reduces tariffs on agricultural products so that industrial exports may be increased; cattle imports under the Canadian trade agreement should, until the law is repealed or the pact expires, be placed upon a weekly or monthly quota.

Canned meat imports should be subjected to higher duty—the full 50 per cent increase permitted in the flexible provision of the tariff law; trade agreements with South American countries to permit importation of canned beef should not be entered into.

Hides should carry a duty of 6 cents a pound on green hides and 10 cents a pound on dry hides.

Shoes should be labeled so that the purchaser may know whether they are made of leather or of substitutes.

Transportation of stolen livestock across state lines should be made a federal offense if present Dyer Act does not fully cover interstate movement of stolen livestock; prevention of theft could well be promoted by apportionment of a part of forest grazing fees for use by state authorities; uniform laws with respect to inspections, regulations, and restrictions concerning interstate movement of cattle, and uniform meat inspection laws should be enacted; auction sales should be put under regulation by proper and uniform state laws.

Grazing permits under the Taylor Grazing Act should be for a ten-year term and such leases issued as soon as practical after investigation and where no conflicts exist; mandates of Section 8 of the Taylor Act (completing the selection and patent of quotas due certain states) should be completed before application of Section 15 of the Act uses all the available lands; powers of local advisory boards should be more definitely specified.

Term leases and preferential rights should be reinstated by the Indian Service and all unused Indian land be offered to the highest bidder, recognizing preferential rights.

Oleomargarine containing less than 100 per cent of domestic fats should be taxed 10 cents a pound; no further tax on domestic fats and oils should be levied; needless restrictions on oleomargarine should be removed.

Section 4 of the Interstate Commerce Act — the long-and-short-haul clause — should be retained; rates on livestock should be reduced as has been done with passenger rates; wasteful rail service should be stopped by repealing prohibitions contained in Section 15 (4) of the Interstate Commerce Act dealing with short-hauling originating or connecting railroads; cost-finding in rail, water, and motor transportation should be instituted; rates should be established on the basis of cost of performing the service, plus reasonable profit; various burdensome provisions in Motor Carrier Act of 1935 should be repealed.

The National Live Stock and Meat Board should collect 50 cents per car for its work in the interest of meat.

Nutritive values of meat should be the subject of study by the proper government departments, to the end that these values may become better known.

President Albert K. Mitchell and Secretary F. E. Mollin were reelected, also Vice President Hubbard Russell. The second vice presidents are: Frank S. Boice, Arizona; Fred A. Hobart, Texas; J. Elmer Brock, Wyoming; Thomas Jones, South Dakota, and Albert Campbell of Idaho.



# The Albuquerque Convention

*The 72nd Annual Meeting of the National Wool Growers Association*

**January 26, 1937**

**T**HE first day of the convention is over.

As a matter of fact, the convention really opened yesterday. Delegates arrived in large groups with each train and by 3 p. m. leaders in the sheepmen's organizations of all the western states were in session at the Alvarado Hotel as the Executive Committee of the National Wool Growers Association.

There were present at that time as regular members of the committee:

President R. C. Rich; vice presidents A. A. Johns and S. M. Jorgensen, and Secretary F. R. Marshall; Lou Charlebois (Arizona); W. P. Wing substituting for Frank C. Clarke (California); G. N. Winder (Colorado); Merle L. Drake (Idaho); Floyd W. Lee (New Mexico); J. G. Barratt (Oregon); G. W. Cunningham substituting for Roy Hudspeth (Texas); W. D. Candland (Utah); T. J. Drumheller (Washington); J. B. Wilson (Wyoming).

The visitors' list included:

Jerrie W. Lee (Arizona) and L. B. Sylvester and A. R. Buckley (Colorado); George A. Whitworth (Montana); M. A. Gonzales, Prager Miller, and Miss Isabel Benson (New Mexico); Walter A. Holt (Oregon); C. B. Wardlaw, Dwight W. Reardon, B. E. Wilson and H. W. Phillips (Texas); James A. Hooper and Sylvester Broadbent (Utah); Thomas Cooper (Wyoming); Charles Sexton (Iowa) and George Farrell (Washington, D. C.)

The secretary presented the financial statement of the Association for the year 1936. (See Secretary's Report, page 46). Based upon this report the Executive Committee gave its entire consideration to the future activities of the National Association and the necessity for increased financial support. While discussion continued during the dinner hour and on into the evening, final decision on the matter was left for the new committee that would meet at the close of the convention.

At 9 o'clock this morning registration was proceeding at full speed at the Alvarado. It looks as if the final count will be well above the 500-mark.



**R. C. Rich, Relected President of the National Association**

Rousing music by the Ellis band led the Alvarado delegation down to the Elks' Club where there were already assembled large groups, including the members of the Women's Auxiliary, from the Franciscan and El Fidel hotels. While it is usually more convenient to have the convention hall in the headquarters hotel, no one seemed to mind, seriously, the short walk in the sunshine and on dry pavements from the hotels to the Elks' Auditorium; in any event, the hall was crowded and everyone seemed to be in unusually happy spirit.

Shortly after ten the delegates arose while the band played the Star Spangled Banner and the convention was off to a very fine start. President R. C. Rich, presiding for the first time at a national meeting, called the convention to order, and the invocation was offered by Rev. George Weber. State and city officials were present and well prepared to express the warmth and sincerity of the New Mexico welcome

to the sheepmen that had already been felt in large measure. Governor Clyde Tingley referred briefly to the historic background of the sheep industry in New Mexico which began with the Coronado Expedition in 1540. He also spoke of the days when differences of opinion between cattle and sheepmen on grazing questions were settled by the six-shooter method and compared them to the present time when both industries work together in the solution of their own problems. Governor Tingley further said:

President Roosevelt has in mind the ratification of the Argentine Sanitary Convention. Personally, I can see danger in the ratification of this convention. My own personal position is in opposition to ratification. The matter is in the hands of the United States Senators and I presume this convention will leave nothing undone in working against this pact. I have no fear that President Roosevelt will do anything to inflict foot-and-mouth disease on this country.

Wild animal problems become acute at times in New Mexico. At present we are considering in New Mexico a coyote bounty law. Whether it will work depends on many things, largely on the livestock men themselves.

I am opposed to further extension of Indian reservations and the purchase of any additional lands for the Indians. I think the Indians have enough land now.

Mayor Charles Lembke spoke for Albuquerque in giving welcome to the visitors.

For the sheepmen, Mr. Sylvan J. Pauly of Deer Lodge, Montana, spoke. While the name of "Pauly" is, of course, well known to western sheepmen, this was the first appearance of Mr. Sylvan Pauly before a national convention, and in his brief and very sincere remarks he made an excellent representative of the sheep industry. And lest the efforts of past leaders in building up the sheepmen's organization be forgotten, Mr. H. C. Abbott of Las Animas, Colorado, who participated in association activities at the beginning of the century, recalled some of the interesting events of that time and paid homage to such promi-

ment figures as the late Senator F. E. Warren and the late F. J. Hagenbarth, both of whom served as presidents of the National Wool Growers Association. Tribute was also paid to Mr. S. W. McClure of Bliss, Idaho, former secretary of the organization, who continues as an active worker and advisor in Association affairs.

Introduced by Vice President Johns, President Rich opened his annual address with a brief statement about the origin of the wool growers' association in the year 1865 and continued with a discussion of such important problems before the industry as reciprocal tariffs, the Argentine Sanitary Convention, Associated Wool Industries, grazing and range conditions, and wildlife. (His address is printed in full in this issue.)

Mrs. J. R. Eliason as president of the Women's Auxiliary of the National Association, described the objectives of the women's group, which was organized in 1929 at Phoenix, Arizona, as the dissemination of knowledge about the sheep industry and the development of individual members of the auxiliary through participation in this united activity.

"I am sure," Mrs. Eliason said, "the unique opportunity of the National Auxiliary lies in having to promote a clear understanding of the nature and importance of the industry in the social and cultural life of the communities in which its members reside."

The present relationship between the American National Livestock Association and the National Wool Growers Association and their cooperation in handling matters of common interest to both livestock groups, was outlined in a brief talk by Mr. Albert K. Mitchell, president of the cattlemen's national organization.

In recent years it has become the custom to have the secretary's annual report in printed form in order that members of the Association may have the opportunity to study and review at their convenience, the work of the Association on their behalf during the year and the suggested procedure for the future. Printed copies of the review for the year 1936 were distributed at



C. B. Wardlaw, Del Rio, Texas, One of the New Vice Presidents of the National Association

the convention. (The report is also printed in this issue.)

### Action of Convention on Reciprocal Trade Agreements

Word had reached the convention this morning that the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives had up for consideration, the bill to extend the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1934, and as an expression of the opposition of the National Wool Growers Association to this measure, Mr. J. B. Wilson of Wyoming, introduced the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted by the convention just before adjournment of the morning session, and later transmitted to the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee:

The National Wool Growers Association in convention assembled at Albuquerque, New Mexico on January 26, 1937, joins all other national agricultural organizations in opposing the extension of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act, Public No. 316-73 Congress. The ill effects flowing from these agreements have paralyzed some of our industries and alarmed all producers of agricultural commodities.

Agriculture has been and will continue to be the chief sufferer from this policy which increases imports of agricultural commodities produced in the United States in sufficient amount to supply the Nation's needs.

We submit that under the trade agreements thus far negotiated the imports of agricultural products have greatly exceeded the exports of many millions of dollars, which in the case of one agreement alone amounted to \$7,000,000. Under these agreements the unfavorable balance of trade has been greatly increased which creates an unsound national economic condition.

### Argentine Sanitary Convention

The afternoon session began with a spirited exposition of what might follow if the Argentine Sanitary Convention is ratified by the United States Senate, given by Mr. F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Livestock Association, who has studied and written extensively on this subject during the past year. In part, Mr. Mollin said:

Following outbreaks of the foot-and-mouth disease in California and Texas in 1924 and 1925, the Department of Agriculture, on January 1, 1927, placed an embargo on the importation of meat products from any region where the disease exists. This order specified "regions" but the Bureau of Animal Industry deemed it unwise to permit imports from any "country" where the disease exists, and, maintained such an embargo. When the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act was passed in 1930 it contained a clause (section 306-A) which prohibits importation of live animals or dressed meat products from any country in which rinderpest or foot-and-mouth disease exists.

Since 1927 we have had only one minor outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease; that was in California in 1929. The source of the infection in that case was traced to garbage on a boat coming from South America.

Under the proposed Argentine Sanitary Convention, section 306-A of the Smoot-Hawley law would be modified to permit entry of dressed products (not live animals) from any area or region declared to be free from foot-and-mouth disease.

We are told that, if the convention is ratified, only insignificant imports of mutton or lamb from Patagonia would result, but there is not a word in the convention about Patagonia or about lamb. It refers to any part of the Argentine, and to any meat products from any zone or region of the Argentine which they can have declared free from disease.

The real dangers of the Argentine Sanitary Convention lie in the final sentence of Article 3 and the first sentence of Article 4. The portion of Article 3 referred to, states: "Neither contracting party may prohibit the importation of animal or plant products originating in and coming from territories or zones of the other country which the importing country finds to be free from animal or plant disease. \* \* \*"

Article 4 makes it obligatory upon us to accept the certificate of origin or inspection of plant or animal products as issued by their sanitary officials.

They talk a lot about the natural barriers which separate Patagonia from the northern section of the Argentine where foot-and-mouth disease exists. In 1914 when we had our most serious outbreak, the disease jumped all natural barriers in this country. Foot-and-mouth disease is no respecter of natural barriers; it will spread wherever people go, wherever railroad trains go and so on.

There are something more than 60 countries in the world today affected with foot-and-mouth disease. If we set a precedent of giving the Argentine permission to enter their products, 60 other countries could demand the same treatment, although the favored-nation treaty does not apply. In 1933 there were 87 outbreaks of the disease in Great Britain. If we ratify the Argentine Sanitary Convention, we can expect to have the same experience as Great Britain. We do not need to import meat, so why in the world should we experiment with this proposition.

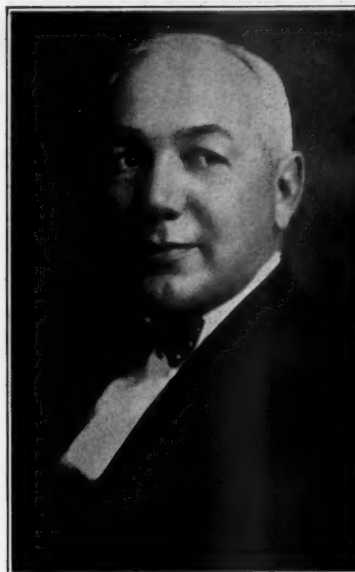
Mr. Mollin also gave details on the expense of eradicating this disease, the length of life of the virus, known to be as much as 345 days, and the many ways in which the disease can be transmitted. He urged everyone to interest himself and take active steps in opposing ratification of the Argentine Sanitary Convention.

### **Range Lands Under the Soil Conservation Act**

"The soil conservation program which began in 1936 was applied to 67 million acres of privately owned range lands in the western states, out of a total of 97 million acres for which applications were received," said George E. Farrell, western regional director of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, in speaking before the wool growers' convention today. He continued:

In 1937 about 110 million acres of privately owned range land will be in the program. I think that is not stating that too largely. That will be spread over all eleven western states plus North Dakota and Kansas. \*\*\*

How does the range program work? First, in carrying out a program such as this, there must be some control of the object. The object of the appropriation made by Congress, the allotment of funds to range lands, is based upon the language in the bill itself. It says the money shall be distributed on the basis of acreage and productivity;



*T. J. Drumheller, President of the Washington Wool Growers Association, elected as Vice President of the National Association.*

figuring the acreage and productivity of the range lands in the western states, it amounts to about \$1.50 per animal unit annually.

I was asked the question today why we had \$2 in 1936 and \$1.50 in 1937, and the answer is that in 1936 we anticipated a very small participation, and therefore we could increase the amount somewhat over what the actual acreage and productivity would amount to; but in 1937 we are anticipating a larger cooperation and therefore the rate is \$1.50 per animal unit. We define an animal unit as one cow, one horse or five sheep for a twelve month's period; a little bit different than the interpretation some people place upon it.

How are we to determine what the carrying capacity and animal units should be? We turn to the Forest Service; they have the greatest amount of experience in carrying capacity. We ask them to step in and lend us their efforts in order that we might appraise the range lands that made application and on that basis determine the gross amount that might be earned on any individual range. If, on inspection, a man had 2000 acres of range land and the Forest Service determined that the carrying capacity was one animal unit, say, to 50 acres, the total allotment on that would be obtained by dividing the 2000 by 50 acres which would give 40, and 40 times \$1.50 or \$60. That would be the maximum amount that might be earned on that particular range. That doesn't mean the man would get that amount; that was the total amount that might be earned.

How could he earn that money? By carrying out practices that would result in the conservation or development of that range land.

The selection of the people who receive the payment is rather simple. The operator of the range is the man who makes the application; several operators operating together may make application if they designate the percentage of interest each one has in the payments for that particular range. \*\*\*

Let's take an illustration. Let's take five sections of 640 acres each, that would be 3200 acres. Let's assume the grazing capacity in that was about one animal unit to about 40 acres; 80 animal units, multiplied by \$1.50, \$120; the total amount that may be earned in that particular range is \$120. Let's assume that he wants to drill a well, and he drills a well and puts on it the necessary pumping equipment and necessary trough carrying the water. A well 100 feet deep at \$1 a foot is \$100. Well, he decides he wants to build a waterhole. Suppose he builds a water hole and moves 500 yards of dirt. Put down 500 yards at 15 cents,—\$75. Now, he actually did on that range \$175 worth of work, according to the basis of payment we have set up, but the maximum amount that may be earned on that particular range is \$120. If that 3200 acres had carried those 80 units for six months, his payment would have been \$60. They always appraise it on a 12-months period.

For 1937, we have added, in some of the states, a new proposal. We have the plan now of deferred grazing, where the grazing is deferred until the grasses have seeded. Now, let's take a look at that. On this same range, this 3200 acres, he may practice deferred grazing on 25 per cent of that or 800 acres. Now, on the whole range he would earn \$120. Suppose there was a period of five months between the time the grass starts until the grass seeds. He gets 35 cents a month. Now, on that 800 acres he had 20 head, that was the carrying capacity of that 800 acres, 20 head. Suppose we say 20 head, kept off there for one month, 20 times 35 cents is \$7; suppose he practices that for five months, he would be paid 5 times 7 or \$35; that would be his payment on deferred grazing. That applies also if land is to be fenced and the livestock must be kept off of it until the grass is seeded. That covers the range program pretty well.

### **Range Appraisals Under the Taylor Act**

This subject was covered by Mr. A. D. Molohon, who is chief of range surveys on the Division of Grazing, with headquarters in Salt Lake City. In part, Mr. Molohon said,

You will remember that the Taylor Grazing Act states definitely that its objectives are first, to stop injury to the public grazing lands by preventing overgrazing and soil



deterioration; second, to provide for their orderly use, improvement and development; and third, to stabilize the livestock industry, depending upon the public range, and for other purposes. I can state without fear of contradiction that as soon as the administration of the Taylor Grazing Act accomplishes the second objective of providing for the orderly use, improvement and development of the public domain, the other two objectives will more or less take care of themselves. \*\*\*

You may ask then, how does the Taylor Act administration propose to provide for this orderly use? It is no deep dark secret that the main object of our administration is the issuance of term permits under section 3 of the act. As you know, we are operating at present under section 2 of the act when we issue licenses that are strictly temporary. In carrying out the objective of the act in the issuance of term permits, it is very plain that we must know two things: First, the carrying capacity of public lands and second, the commensurateness and dependency of private lands. To secure this information is the purpose of range surveys. \*\*\*

It is obvious that before a complete picture may be attained on the public range and the land depending thereon, we must have full and complete maps of all lands lying within grazing districts. While these maps have never been compiled for the lands under the administration of the Taylor Act as a whole, various governmental agencies, such as the Geological Survey and the Public Survey branch of the General Land Office over a period of years and the Soil Conservation Service of recent years have gathered information upon which to base maps of a considerable portion of our districts. To cover all of this information and to put it on a uniform scale in the form most adapted to use by advisory boards, the Division of Grazing has established three drafting offices, employing in the neighborhood of 40 draftsmen each, located in the towns of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Salt Lake City, Utah, and Reno, Nevada.

Mr. Molohon spoke at some length about the training of C.C.C. enrollees to do the necessary drafting work in the offices mentioned above. In discussing the actual field work of range surveys, Mr. Molohon continued:

The survey work is divided into two main divisions, the survey of the dependent properties which constitutes the bulk of the work in the eight states outside of New Mexico and Arizona, and an actual field examination in this state, Arizona, southern Nevada and southern California.

In the northern states the dependent property surveys are accomplished by competent fieldmen who have been chosen primarily for their familiarity with ranch operations in



*Ira N. Gabrielson, Chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, a Convention Speaker*

the state within which they work. These men visit each actual ranch set-up armed with the application of the owner of that property, make a detailed report as to the productivity of the hay and grain producing lands and an estimate of the forage producing capacity of the ranch lands owned or leased by that particular applicant. In rating a given applicant's commensurability these examiners take the actual production over a five-year average as nearly as it can be ascertained from the applicant himself, together with their knowledge of ranch operations, and divide that production total by the yardstick ratings established by resolution of the advisory board representing that particular district. Roughly, this gives the board the actual commensurate rating of that particular ranch set-up and a picture of the operator's year-round operation. This dependent property report, to use the term it is known by, contains not only the proper use figures for that set-up but also the data on the actual use being made of the land at present.

Maps showing the complete survey made of Grazing District Number 5, New Mexico, were placed before the convention and discussed by Mr. Molohon. He showed how by using different colors for each type of forage, a quite complete picture is made of a grazing district.

### **Forest Grazing Policies**

New developments in forest grazing policies discussed by Mr. W. L. Dutton, chief of the Division of Range Management, U. S. Forest Service, concluded the afternoon program. Mr. Dutton's paper was concerned chiefly with a discussion of the surveys made in connection with the distribution of the forest grazing. Mr. Dutton said:

Regardless of past aims, the Forest Service recognizes that its grazing policies have been open to differences of opinion and has admitted the probability of needed changes in certain features of those policies. For these reasons, a distribution policy survey was undertaken for the purpose of inquiring into the soundness of past policies and, if possible, developing better principles for the distribution of grazing privileges than the ones now used.

Several members of your association have reviewed this study as to methods used and data obtained, and are familiar with the field covered. It should be sufficient here simply to state that it was undertaken early in 1935 on representative units in each of the six western national forest regions; was expanded in 1936 to include the cooperation of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the Grazing Service of the Department of the Interior, and several western colleges, and has now progressed to the point where the results of the study are being translated into proposed policy.

Probably the more important tentative recommendations of the distribution survey would include briefly:

1. Give proper stocking of the ranges priority over all other considerations and make no reductions for distribution until the number of stock on a given range is within the safe carrying capacity of the range.

2. Strive for the encouragement of as many economically and socially sound home units as possible under operating conditions appropriate to the locality.

3. Recognize property as dependent only when there is need for forest range in order to round out an operation to secure proper and practicable use of commensurate property.

4. Recognize property as commensurate only when it is definitely useful to the operation, complementary, and properly used. Require the ownership of a substantial portion of the land used when not on the forest but also recognize the practice of leasing part of the land from other individuals or government agencies. Avoid any ownership requirement which would force the operator to purchase land not actually needed in the operation.

5. Give some recognition to corporations and partnerships where they contribute to the maintenance of more than one family unit as effectively as if operated as two or more separate units.

6. Use the home unit number as determined by economists, or otherwise, as the basic structure from which to develop future limits. Establish new limits ultimately to replace the present maximum and protective limits. Place the lower limit at or near the accepted home unit number. Place the upper limit at or near a point which represents the upper level of operating efficiency and which would prevent overexpansion and tendency toward monopoly.

7. Provide protection against distribution to preferences which are commensurate and not monopolistic.

8. Use all surplus gained through transfer reductions and otherwise for range protection, for increases to qualified permittees, and for admission of new applicants.

9. Restrict consolidation of permits already over the lower limit.

10. Recognize a grantee preference as waivable only after five years' use of the range.

11. No change in present ten-year term permit policy.

12. Keep policies sufficiently flexible to handle local problems in accordance with local conditions.

These proposals are tentative only and, in keeping with past commitments, the details involved will be taken up with local stockmen and other agencies, and their views given full consideration before final conclusions are reached. Conferences have already been held with the joint committee of the National Wool Growers and the American National Livestock Association in Denver and with the Forest Advisory Board of the American National in El Paso. These conferences will be continued with your own advisory board during this convention, and plans are already under way for obtaining the criticisms and suggestions of local stock associations throughout the West.

Let it be emphasized again that these proposals are not final and that we want the constructive criticism of all interested agencies and individuals. Any question which carries the importance attached to the distribution problem dictates the most thorough analysis in advance of final decision. Even then, all will not be completely satisfied because honest difference of opinion will continue to exist.

Mr. Dutton's talk concluded today's program.

There were many happy dinner parties in the dining room of the Alvarado tonight which went on to the dance given at the Elks' Club for the visiting sheepmen. At that place they also enjoyed special Indian dances by Blue Sky Eagle.

## January 27, 1937

Today was lamb day at the convention.

When we reached the Elks' Club this morning we found a rack of lamb carcasses (furnished by Armour and Company) over which a good part of the day's discussion was to be centered—that is, whether or not compulsory grading and stamping of lamb is desirable.



Gerald B. Thorne of Wilson and Company, Chicago, a Convention Speaker

Last year when cattlemen introduced a bill in Congress providing for the compulsory grading of beef, it was suggested that the sheepmen might like to have lamb included, but as the matter had never been presented to members of the National Wool Growers Association, officials took no action on it at that time. All angles of the question were presented today in order that sheepmen might have an opportunity to frame their decision on the matter.

### Government Lamb Grading

Mr. B. F. McCarthy, senior market specialist in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in the Department of Agriculture, presented the case for compulsory grading. Some of the points made by Mr. McCarthy are listed below:

1. While the Department of Agriculture graded about twenty pounds of beef for every pound of lamb last year, between July 1, 1934 and June 30, 1936, lamb grading increased from about 8 million pounds to nearly 18 million pounds a year, a gain of around 125 per cent.

2. There seems to be a feeling that lamb does not need to be graded. That such is not the case is evidenced by the fact that it isn't at all unusual for choice lamb carcasses of a given weight to sell 10 cents per pound higher than medium grade lambs of similar weights, which indicates how re-

tailers and consumers, generally, feel about the differences in quality of lamb.

3. The federal grade stamp applied to a lamb carcass carries the same amount of prestige as the stamp on beef. Those who start having lamb carcasses graded continue to use the service. They find that the stamp helps them to sell the lamb at full market prices and helps their customers to get the quality of meat they want.

4. The better class hotels, restaurants, clubs, railroad diners and steamship lines use federally graded beef, and many of them also demand federally graded lamb.

5. The per capita consumption of lamb in many of the inland states is surprisingly low; in many such places the general supply of lamb in retail markets is low in grade. Retailers in such locations apparently are convinced that consumers are not willing to pay very much for lamb and handle only the plainer and lower-priced grades. The eating qualities of such lamb do not compare with U. S. "choice" graded lamb and, therefore, the consumers do not find lamb satisfactory enough to warrant increased consumption. It becomes an endless cycle of poorly satisfied customers and low distribution.

6. Were consumers in low-consuming centers encouraged to use more high quality lamb, there is little doubt that an immediate increase in total lamb consumption would result.

7. Twenty or thirty years ago pioneers in chain stores followed a low-price low-quality method of merchandising. Eventually they found their trade drifting away because their meats did not satisfy. Now they are building their business up on the basis of guaranteed quality, fair prices, and truthful advertising.

8. It is easy for anyone to know the modern trend in merchandising. It is basically a recognition of the fact that the truthful quality appeal is the strongest of all. Fair price for identified quality is all that any intelligent consumer buyer can ask for.

9. The fashions for meat quality have too frequently been set for the housewife by the retailers; if she had had some opportunity to set them for herself, it would have been better for the industry and for her family.

10. Any person willing to pay a fair price for a commodity should have that commodity correctly described in order that a decision suitable to the buyer may be made.

11. A great opportunity exists for increased lamb consumption throughout the United States in sections where lamb is used at the present time in very small quantities or not at all, depending largely on the suitability of the lamb supplied in those sections as well as the dissemination of truthful information to the consumers on the desirability of lamb in the diet.

(Continued on page 47)

# The 1937 Platform and Program of the National Wool Growers Association

*As Set Forth in the Reports of Various Committees and Adopted by the 72nd Annual Convention, Albuquerque, New Mexico, January 26-28, 1937*

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

### *Excise Taxes*

1. We are opposed to the levying of any excise tax on livestock or its products.

### *Stockyards and Packers*

2. We recommend that the President appoint a committee of three, with the President and Secretary as members, to meet with other interests to consider amendments to the Packers and Stockyards Act and other matters of importance to our industry.

### *Argentine Sanitary Convention*

3. The National Wool Growers Association recognizes that the livestock industry of the United States is now protected from the ravages of rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease under the strict exclusion provisions of the present law whereby importation of livestock, or fresh meat, is prohibited from countries where these diseases exist. As a result, this country is now free from these diseases that in the past have caused the expenditure of many millions of dollars and jeopardized the Nation's livestock industry. Therefore, this Association, at its 72nd Annual Convention, now in session, not only urges, but insists that the present embargo against such importations be retained. We urge that the Senate of the United States refuse to ratify the proposed Argentine Sanitary Convention, it being a well-established fact that these diseases are prevalent in Argentina.

### *Freight Rates*

4. During 1936 the railroads imposed charges for unloading and reloading of livestock, which charges had not previously been assessed since the decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission prescribing scales of rates for livestock. The Commission's decision was based on a fair rate of return for all service rendered by the railroads. We ask that these charges be eliminated, or that the basic rate be reduced.

We are unalterably opposed to any increase in freight charges.

In some sections of the United States, railroads grant "trailer" privileges, permitting LCL shipments, with a minimum of 10,000 pounds of livestock, to accompany one or more full cars at the same rate per hundredweight as applies to full cars. This practice allows many livestock shipments

to be made without overloading and unnecessary damage to livestock. We request that this practice be extended to and from all points in the United States.

We favor amendment of the Interstate Commerce Act by eliminating the provision that joint rates need not be established when such would require that the originating carrier short-haul itself. We take the position that shippers paying rates on the basis prescribed by the Interstate Commerce Commission should be allowed to designate the routing if they so desire.

### *Loans*

5. Drought, depression, high cost of operation, and other unfavorable conditions have involved many of our producers in debt to such an extent that the interest thereon is almost unbearable. We, therefore, believe that the greatest service the government can render our people is to provide an interest rate of not over 3 per cent on money for operating purposes. Even then it will require several years for the livestock producer to work out his salvation.

### *Reciprocal Trade Agreements*

6. We join all other national agricultural organizations in opposing the extension of the Reciprocal Trade Agreement Act, Public No. 316-73 Congress. The ill effects flowing from these agreements have paralyzed some of our industries and alarmed all producers of agricultural commodities.

Agriculture has been and will continue to be the chief sufferer from this policy which increases imports of agricultural commodities produced in the United States in sufficient amount to supply the Nation's needs. We submit that under the trade agreements thus far negotiated the imports of agricultural products have greatly exceeded the exports by many millions of dollars, which in the case of one agreement alone amounted to \$7,000,000. Under these agreements the unfavorable balance of trade has been greatly increased, which creates an unsound national economic condition.

### *Tariff*

7. We insist that the American producer is entitled to the American markets and that any tariff laws, treaties, agreements, or reciprocal arrangements, or other devices by whatsoever name, which deprive him of the home market will bring hardship, suffering and national economic disaster.



### Maritime Strike

8. We cannot judge as to the merits in the present bitter dispute between the Pacific Coast ship operators and the maritime union leaders. We do not take sides—except the side of the people of the Pacific Coast, who, after all is said and done, are the real and unwilling victims of this shipping strike. This strike involves far more than the rights or interests of union labor or of the shipowners. It involves the well-being and progress of the West. It might affect even the stability of government itself. Democratic governments have fallen and been replaced by iron-fisted dictators, by reason of economic disturbances of this nature. We, therefore, call upon the shipowners and the unions to compose at once their present differences, and to do whatever may be necessary to avoid any repetition of the present disastrous strike. Certainly there must be some way, in this enlightened age, to settle industrial disputes without placing throttling hands upon the economic throat of the Nation!

Agriculture in the West has had its vital disputes with transportation interests, but these have been settled in a sane and orderly way. Differences over rail rates have been taken in due course to the Interstate Commerce Commission, where thorough and impartial hearing and investigation have produced lasting settlements. Pending the Commission's decisions, the railroads have continued to operate and agricultural interests have continued with their essential services. We believe that the industrial disputes affecting our water-borne commerce, or any other essential industry, could be handled similarly by proper legal machinery established for that purpose.

### Thanks

9. We take this opportunity to extend most generous thanks to the New Mexico Wool Growers Association, the Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Floyd W. Lee, whose thoughtful attention to our comfort and entertainment at our 72nd Annual Convention has made it thoroughly enjoyable and profitable. Our appreciation is also extended to the newspapers of Albuquerque.

J. B. Wilson, Wyoming (Chairman)  
 Dan Campbell, Arizona  
 Mrs. H. C. Compton, California  
 L. B. Sylvester, Colorado  
 A. J. Peavey, Idaho  
 Guy Stambaugh, Montana  
 Edward Sargent, New Mexico  
 Walter A. Holt, Oregon  
 Earl Wilson, Texas  
 W. D. Candland, Utah  
 T. J. Drumheller, Washington

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LAMB MARKETING

### Legislation

1. We are opposed to legislation similar to the Capper Anti-Direct Marketing Bill.

### Market Practices

2. We instruct our officers to request all members to report all complaints relative to unfair market practices of

all wholesale butchers and packers and to get supporting data relative to these complaints, so that the Association may make further investigation and report to the growers and to the executive committee. We ask that a budget be set up by the Association to take care of this service.

We oppose packer-slaughtering of lambs and sheep on a commission basis. Lamb producers and shippers should understand that this practice is a market price destroyer, as the packer has no investment in these lambs slaughtered. The packer uses such lambs to gain new business at the expense of the lamb shipper. This practice is prevalent on the Pacific Coast in some years.

We are opposed to the practice of packers making contracts on lambs at prices based on the market price at some central market on day of delivery. Lamb shippers making such deals with packers are limiting competition.

### Marketing Charges

3. We commend the United States Department of Agriculture for its aggressive action in endeavoring to obtain reasonable and equitable rates in the yardage and selling charges on our lambs and sheep at the public markets.

### Prevention of Shipping Losses

4. We heartily endorse the work of the National Live Stock Loss Prevention Board in its efforts to eliminate losses due to bruising and mishandling of lambs and sheep before and during a movement to market.

### Livestock Market Reporting Agencies

5. We appreciate the issuance by the Federal Livestock News Service of the Division of Agricultural Economics of the very valuable livestock market reports and sincerely request their continuance.

### Lamb and Meat Advertising

6. We highly commend the various distributors and processors of meat who have so materially aided and supported the 1937 National Mid-Winter Lamb Sale. We especially commend the National Association of Food Chains for inaugurating this movement, and wish to commend the following organizations who are cooperating: The National Association of Retail Grocers; the National Association of Retail Meat Dealers, the Institute of American Meat Packers, and the National Live Stock and Meat Board.

We also extend our appreciation to the Colorado-Nebraska Lamb Feeders Association for its financial help in this lamb campaign.

### Limiting Production

7. We are strongly opposed to any regulations that will effect control of production of any products of the sheep industry.

J. G. Barratt, Oregon (Chairman)  
 Herbert Babbitt, Arizona  
 W. P. Wing, California  
 A. R. Buckley, Colorado  
 A. J. Peavey, Idaho  
 J. H. Clements, New Mexico  
 M. A. Smith, Utah  
 A. Bohoskey, Washington

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON WOOL MARKETING

### *Fabric Labeling*

1. We urge the enactment of federal legislation making it mandatory for manufacturers and retailers to label goods containing wool and mohair so as to disclose plainly the percentage of fiber content other than wool and mohair. We insist that such labels be attached to wool and mohair goods offered to the consuming public as suits, coats, blankets, wool, yarn, and yardage goods, or any other articles purporting to contain wool or mohair.

### *Senate Wool Investigation*

2. We endorse the action of the Association in the United States Senate investigation of wool marketing and request that said investigation continue, that ample funds be provided for the same, and that full and complete hearings be held and the findings published.

### *Wool Promotion*

3. We commend Associated Wool Industries for its effective campaign in regard to wool and mohair promotion, and favor a continuation of this program. We urge the growers to support this movement by the payment of the required ten cents on bags of standard size and corresponding amounts on bags of other sizes.

### *Botany Worsted Mills*

4. We extend our thanks and appreciation to the Botany Worsted Mills and Mr. Otto Stabell for the splendid exhibit during the convention and his appearance on the program.

### *Wool Research*

5. We believe that considerable work can be done by the Department of Agriculture in determining a better formula for establishing shrinkages, and in further research work in the usage of wool. We, therefore, recommend that Congress appropriate for wool work by the United States Department of Agriculture not less than \$100,000 annually.

### *Orderly Marketing*

6. Grower-owned and controlled selling agencies have proven their value in wool marketing and we commend their services and recommend an orderly system of merchandising wool.

We question the advisability of the contracting of wool on the sheep's back.

### *Consignment and Speculation*

7. We consider it a bad practice for dealers purchasing wool to handle consignments. We, therefore, recommend that legislation or regulations be provided separating speculative from consignment houses.

### *Tag Discounts*

8. In order that there may be a close relationship between the wool trade, wool manufacturers, and wool growers in handling matters of mutual interest, we suggest the formation of a committee composed of two members of the National Wool Trade Association, a manufacturer representing the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, and two members of the National Wool Growers Association. We suggest that such a committee consider the question of tag discounts.

We are opposed to the assessing of a tag discount in the purchase of wool by manufacturers and the wool trade from the grower. We believe wool should be purchased strictly on its merits.

Thomas Cooper, Wyoming (Chairman)  
W. P. Wing, California  
A. Allen, Colorado  
Guy Stambaugh, Montana  
R. A. Ward, Oregon  
C. B. Wardlaw, Texas  
Charles Redd, Utah  
T. J. Drumheller, Washington

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC DOMAIN GRAZING

Congress passed the Taylor Grazing Act in 1934. The main purposes which prompted the passage of this act were: To preserve the natural resources of the public domain lands; to provide for their orderly use, improvement and development; and to stabilize the livestock industry dependent upon the public domain range.

The Taylor Act, as amended, provides for the establishment of grazing districts which may include a total of 142,000,000 acres.

Section 3 of the act provides that "preference shall be given in the issuance of grazing permits to those within or near a district who are land owners engaged in the livestock business, bona fide occupants or settlers, or owners of water or water rights, as may be necessary to permit the proper use of lands, water or water rights owned, occupied, or leased by them \*\*\*\*\*"

### *Preferences for Permits*

1. It is our contention that the above portion of the law requires that, in the issuance of permits, preference shall be given to users of land, of water or water rights, owned or leased by them, who are actually engaged in the livestock business at the time the grazing districts are established, provided those rights were not acquired between January 1, 1934 and December 31, 1934, both dates inclusive.

We believe that the main objective of the act was to stabilize the livestock industry. In order to accomplish this we must take into consideration proper maintenance of available forage so as to perpetuate this natural resource.

We must also provide for the care of the livestock now using the range, with the minimum amount of disturbance in making any changes that may be necessary.

We believe that it is very necessary in the management of these range lands to provide for proper seasonal use, whereby maximum benefits can be acquired.

In order to secure the objectives above referred to, we recommend that permits be granted in the following order:

First: To applicants who are prior users with sufficient land holdings, owned or leased, whereby they have reasonable assurance that they are able to furnish proper care for their permitted number of livestock for that portion of the year when it would be improper to permit grazing upon the range land in question.

Second: To applicants with prior use, but not holding, by ownership or lease, adequate dependent and commensurate property.

Third: To applicants with dependent commensurate property, but without prior use.

#### ***Sale of Isolated Tracts***

2. We recommend that provision be made for the sale of isolated tracts of public lands within the exterior boundaries of grazing districts in accordance with the provisions of section 14 of the Taylor Grazing Act; also, that in cases in which two or more owners of contiguous lands apply for purchase of the same tract, preference shall be given to those having prior use.

#### ***Leasing of Lands***

3. We recommend that where it appears to be more practical for those now using public domain lands to lease them, rather than have them included within grazing districts, that this be permitted; provided, that when the system of leasing prevails, preference shall be given to prior users.

#### ***Study of Eligibility***

4. We recommend that a very thorough and complete study be made of all factors necessary to determine the eligibility of an operator; also that a complete study of the carrying capacity of the various range lands be made before the issuance of term permits or execution of any drastic order.

We believe that the Taylor Act as it exists at the present time carries sufficient authority, provided such authority is properly executed, to reasonably safeguard livestock enterprises that depend upon rights to graze public domain lands.

#### ***Curtailment of Permits***

5. We are opposed to any rule or regulation which, in effect, may require elimination or serious curtailment of the present numbers of livestock grazed by operators who can qualify under the above recommendations.

#### ***Mining***

6. We are opposed to the repeal of the present United States mining laws relating to discovery and location of lode mining claims.

#### ***State and National Committees***

7. We recommend that a permanent committee of three be named by the President to represent the National Wool Growers Association in any and all matters pertaining to public domain lands or forest grazing lands.

We recommend to the different state wool growers' organizations that a committee similar to the one we have recommended to the National Association be provided, if in their judgment such a committee is necessary.

#### ***Taylor Act Administration***

8. During the past two and one-half years there has been organized, by and under the able leadership of F. R. Carpenter, a division of government, known as the Division of Grazing, which is a branch of the Interior Department. This division has confronting it numerous perplexing problems which affect the livestock industry. Having fully in mind the immensity of these problems, we wish to state that it is our belief that substantial progress has been made. We, therefore, recommend that the present personnel of this department of government be continued in office, in order that they may have a fair chance of working out the problems which they have initiated, to the end that general satisfaction may be obtained.

S. M. Jorgensen, Utah (Chairman)  
Lou Charlebois, Arizona  
Lee Wyman, Colorado  
James Laidlaw, Idaho  
Sidney S. Gottlieb, New Mexico  
L. E. Vivian, Wyoming

#### **REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREST GRAZING**

##### ***Term Permits***

1. The principal factor in stabilizing the livestock industry in the past year has been the issuance of ten-year permits. We appreciate the substantial continuation of previous progressive policies.

There should be no reductions in preference permits, except for range protection, and where range reductions have been made, or may hereafter be made for range protection, any rehabilitation of the range should be used for reinstatement of such reductions.

##### ***Redistribution***

2. The proposed future policy for grazing on national forests, as summarized in the 12-point digest and tentatively submitted by the Forest Service, is so uncertain and indefinite that we cannot approve it in its entirety. We particularly object to paragraphs Nos. 2, 6 and 9. We endorse



that portion of the proposed policy which is fair and equitable to our industry and feel that much progress has been made toward future stability in the administration of the range.

### **Reorganization**

3. There have been many bills introduced from time to time in Congress to combine the Division of Grazing and the Forest Service. Our experience with these two departments is such that we believe it against the best interests of grazing land, of livestock, and the community as a whole to combine these services at this time, and we recommend that until proper legislation is enacted which will protect and perpetuate the rights of graziers upon both the national forests and the public domain, there be no combining of these departments.

### **Publications**

4. Many of the statements made in Senate Document 199 are highly theoretical, impractical, and controversial, and we are opposed to the issuance of such statements. We recognize the value of some of the statistical information in this document.

### **Burning**

5. Under the United States forest policies during the past twenty years, the carrying capacity for the grazing of livestock in the western states, particularly in Oregon and California, has been tremendously reduced in certain areas. Such policies have created a great fire hazard, jeopardizing the private grass lands and grazing areas, and have resulted in huge losses of farm buildings, entire towns, lives and property. The burning of brush areas which are not strictly timber areas would protect not only the timber areas from fire but also lives and property. We feel that the Forest Service, under present policies, has hindered and greatly hampered cooperation to reduce fire hazards and has hampered investigations suggested by universities. We suggest that the Forest Service change its present policies relative to the burning of brush areas which are not commercial timber areas, and that it conduct investigations of sufficient scope to secure factual information on this subject; also that the Forest Service cooperate wholeheartedly with other agencies, such as state boards of forestry and and universities, in securing relief from the present intolerable situation.

Merle L. Drake, Idaho (Chairman)  
Gene Campbell, Arizona  
W. P. Wing, California  
G. N. Winder, Colorado  
Sylvan J. Pauly, Montana  
M. A. Gonzales, New Mexico  
J. G. Barratt, Oregon  
Sylvester Broadbent, Utah  
A. W. Lawson, Washington  
L. E. Vivian, Wyoming

## **REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PREDATORY ANIMALS**

We desire to call to your attention that there was approved by the 71st Congress on March 6, 1931, a bill authorizing a ten-year program for the support of predatory animal and rodent control by the Biological Survey, whereby one million dollars was to be appropriated each year for a period of ten years. There was expended from regular funds in 1931 some \$608,000 for the above mentioned purposes and the amounts have decreased from time to time, and in the year 1936 not over \$600,000 was expended.

We submit that the failure on the part of Congress to put the ten-year program into effect by not appropriating the necessary funds is unsound economy for the government, as well as its cooperators, in this important work, in that the end to be accomplished is unnecessarily delayed. We recommend that the ten-year program be inaugurated at the earliest possible time.

We desire to call attention to, and re-emphasize, the position taken by this Association in the resolution adopted at its last annual convention with reference to the inadequacy of funds provided by Congress for the Bureau of Biological Survey in the prosecution of this important work; with reference to the necessity of this work for the benefit of small farmers and for the conservation of wildlife; with reference to the need of cooperation in this work between the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture; with reference to the great amount of money invested by government agencies in loans on livestock; with reference to the need of control of predatory animals on national park areas; and with reference to a closer relationship between game governing bodies and livestock men to the end that a complete understanding be reached between livestock men and conservationists concerned with wildlife.

During 1936, in most of the western states, rodent control work received more attention and assistance than did predatory animal destruction. This was due to the extensive work done through CCC Camps, drought relief, and other federal agencies. It is just as important to our industry as to farmers that the extermination of the rabbits, gophers, and the ground squirrels be continued. We are pleased to say that this cooperative work was of material value to agricultural interests, and we earnestly urge its continuation this coming year.

We commend the Bureau of Biological Survey for its excellent work in these two activities, and ask for its continued cooperation with the members of this organization.

We instruct our officers to proceed in every way possible to carry out the thought and intent of these resolutions.

Marsh Lea, Texas (Chairman)  
T. J. Hudspeth, Arizona  
M. E. Noonan, Colorado  
M. Paltenghe, New Mexico  
Walter A. Holt, Oregon  
Walter Dansie, Utah

# Annual Address of the President

By R. C. Rich

**I**T IS perhaps fitting to review briefly the history of this great organization. Articles of association and by-laws were adopted for the National Wool Growers Association at Syracuse, New York, December 12, 1865. The wool growers attending this meeting which perfected the organization represented sheepmen of Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, New York, Ohio, Illinois and Michigan. Most of the representatives present were officers of wool growers' associations in their respective states. State associations were authorized to name their own representatives to the Executive Committee. This custom is still followed by the National Wool Growers Association.

From 1865 to 1901 the National Association was concerned almost entirely with tariff matters. Apparently the first appearance of western wool growers in National Association affairs was at a meeting held in Washington, D. C., in December, 1895. Texas, New Mexico, South Dakota and Colorado were represented.

The first western meeting was held in Salt Lake City, Utah, on January 19, 1901. Some of the matters considered there were government inspection of sheep, freight rates, methods of marketing and reciprocity treaties.

During the last 35 years, the control of the Association has been in the hands of the wool growers of the western states. However, tariff, freight rates, sanitation, wool and lamb promotion and marketing being of equal importance to wool growers of all sections, working relations have been maintained with wool growers' organizations farther east.

Sheepmen are justified in taking much pride in the age and service records of their national and state associations.

No changes have been made in the rates affecting wool, lamb or mutton since the general tariff revision of 1930. The value of the present tariff

to producers of wool is evidenced by the prices being paid for that commodity at this time. We are unquestionably enjoying the full benefit of the present tariff rates in this country at this time.

## Reciprocal Tariffs

It is an interesting study to attempt to analyze the possibility of the federal administration's entering into reciprocal trade treaties which would adversely affect our products. In this regard may I call your attention to a letter written by the President of the United States to Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming just after Congress had passed the Reciprocal Tariff Act in the spring of 1934? May I read this letter to you?

June 3, 1934

My dear Senator O'Mahoney:

My concern that agricultural prices should be protected and where possible substantially raised, ought to be well known by this time. This is why I was surprised that a question should be raised about wool. The new tariff bill has been thought of as one of the emergency measures which would help in the general effort to rehabilitate agriculture and industry together. The wool industry is one of those which need price protection and the suggestion that the new tariff bill might be used to lower those prices is one which would not have occurred to me. That is the thought I expressed to you, Senator Costigan, and others on May 9th. I have read the statement which you issued and as I might expect, it correctly reports the facts.

I hope that you will have no further concern for fear that something damaging to the industry may result from this legislation.

Very sincerely yours,  
Franklin D. Roosevelt

I am sure no one of us would quarrel with the President's attitude on this most important matter as expressed at that time. However, the entire picture is not so rosy. The State Department, which ordinarily sets up and writes reciprocal treaties, is headed by a man who, if we may judge by his record in Congress and his public statements, sincerely believes in a very free and easy exchange of goods between the various nations. And as time goes

on, and especially if prices continue to rise, there will, of course, be a demand from the East and South for lower tariff rates.

It will, therefore, be absolutely necessary for the people engaged in agricultural pursuits, through their organizations, to keep the President and other interested officials properly informed as to their financial condition and as to the absolute necessity of maintaining existing tariff rates.

As to our particular situation: While wool prices are good and lamb prices are somewhat improved from the extremely bad markets of November and December of 1936, our industry, like most other branches of agriculture, has only slightly recovered from the great depression.

I happen to be a member of the Loan Committee of the Idaho Live Stock Production Credit Association. This association was set up at a most opportune time and was able to acquire many of the best loans in its territory. On January 6, 1937, this agency had 87 cattle and sheep loans. These outfits at that time were borrowing from the above mentioned concern an average of \$5.52 per head on ewes or ewe lambs or both, and \$19.44 per head on cattle. And before new crops are raised and sold, the average will have increased to about \$9 per head on sheep and about \$23 per head on cattle.

These figures do not include, in many cases, secondary obligations, nor do they include land loans. This credit organization is not permitted to make loans on land.

I know of only five range outfits in my state which do not have mortgages on their livestock. Probably Idaho presents about an average picture in this regard and to my certain knowledge, better than states where recent severe droughts have been suffered.

It can readily be seen from this picture that it will take several years of good prices to put our people in a rea-

sonably satisfactory financial condition.

### **Argentine Sanitary Convention**

When President Roosevelt recently indicated, in a statement made in South America, that he might soon urge the Senate to ratify this so-called convention, we were forced to the definite conclusion that he had been poorly advised and was not well informed. This opinion is substantiated by the fact that at a recent meeting of the United States Livestock Sanitary Association, which includes most of the important veterinary officials of this country, resolutions were passed strongly opposing ratification of said pact.

We are also pleased to report that practically all the national agricultural organizations are strenuously exerting their influence in opposition to its ratification. Most of our western United States senators have made known their opposition and we are somewhat hopeful that the United States Senate will not ratify the Argentine Sanitary Convention.

### **Associated Wool Industries**

This organization is, of course, entitled to some credit for the tremendous increased consumption of wool during the past two years. While I have not had an opportunity to get well informed as to its activity, some advertising of our product seems essential. We are sure the state associations are on firm ground when actively advising individual growers to support this work.

### **Grazing and Range Conditions**

During the past year much has been written and said about range conservation, overgrazing, depleted ranges and erosion. Many who have been vocal appear to have but little knowledge of the practical problem. Beyond any question, the indictment has been largely theoretical and quite extreme.

Let me quote briefly Mr. A. F. Vass of the University of Wyoming:

Maximum returns cannot be secured from plants that are kept nibbled off close to the ground, nor can they be obtained by allowing plants to go unharvested. Undergrazing, if practiced over a period of years, is as wasteful from the plant standpoint as overgrazing.

Erosion of the West by winds has been given a great deal of publicity, not so much from the standpoint of soil depletion, for that is almost negligible, but more because of the spectacular, as well as the unpleasant, nature of the thing, and the fact that dust gets into the senators' eyes. It is my own opinion that the dust particles picked up in the arid and laid down in the humid regions have increased, rather than decreased, our natural resources. They have merely resettled in a more favorable environment for producing plant growth.

Also, let me quote briefly the Honorable Thomas Cooper, president of the Wyoming Wool Growers Association, in his annual address before their convention last July:

Last year I completed 50 years of work with sheep on the ranges of Wyoming. In my opinion, the range is better today than 50 years ago. Early travelers recorded in their journeys the difficulty of travel owing to the scarcity of feed for their stock. The range was just as dry in 1886 as it is this year, 1936. Seasons of ample rainfall and good growing conditions insure an abundance of grass. Dry seasons, lack of rainfall, means scarcity of feed. Rain fall or drouth are not influenced in the least by the number of livestock in the western states.

We must see to it that at least occasionally the public has an opportunity to hear or read a fair and practical treatment of range conditions.

It is estimated that the National Soil Conservation Act will create 30 to 50 million acres of new pastures in the territory east of the twelve western range states. The Department of Agriculture estimates increasing numbers of sheep in that section, but shows how such increase may be offset by decreases in the West due to policies of the Forest Service and Taylor Grazing Act administration.

We have already suffered a decrease of two to three million head of sheep in the twelve western states since 1931. And it certainly behooves all active people who are interested in our economic welfare to join hands against further reduction.

### **Wildlife**

The constant demand of certain wildlife enthusiasts for more game preserves and the radical statements of a few misinformed sportsmen whose knowledge of game has, in many cases, been acquired from the reading of some book or possibly a few days' trip into

the mountains during the hunting season, have tended to create the impression that the range livestock business is in direct conflict with game conservation. Now, nothing could be farther from the truth. Both the stockman and the farmer have a sympathetic understanding of the habits of game animals and birds. Daily through the year he sees this game. During the winter he sees it feeding on the rancher's hay or in his barnyard eating grain. Ducks, geese and pheasants eat his wheat, his barley and his oats. Wolves, coyotes and bear eat his sheep, his lambs and his calves; deer, elk and antelope his pasture and his hay. And while it is true he does object to the slaughter of his domestic stock, he has uttered but small complaint for the loss of feed sustained through the feeding of these game animals and birds.

In reality, who is the true conservator of game? The man who hunts it down to kill, or the man who feeds it? In fact, farmers and stockmen have in their control to a large extent the preservation of game, and any sound game conservation movement must, of necessity, look to them for support. I think the rank and file of our sportsmen will subscribe to this. Unfortunately, they have within their membership a few radicals who are doing most of the talking but who do not represent the views of the majority. For instance, some of the radical element proposes to put all the sheep off the forests and Taylor grazing lands. I wonder what they propose to do with all this game during the winter season. Apparently it has never occurred to these people that the big game problem in the West is winter feed.

Would these same people be willing to purchase hay for all the deer and elk and the antelope that could be grazed on these mountain areas during the summer? I doubt it.

Then, what benefit could there be from such a program? Winter takes a heavy toll of the game we now have; why increase it?

We have no quarrel with the fair-minded sportsmen and will be glad and willing to cooperate in any reasonable



program for wildlife conservation. However, we cannot be held responsible for the destruction of game that has been caused by the high-powered rifle, the double-barreled shot gun and severe winters.

### In Conclusion

The financial prospects for the immediate future, for the country as a whole and for our industry, appear so bright that I would like to call your attention to one or two factors which may well cause concern.

Heretofore, when coming out of a depression, our sheep numbers in this country have been materially reduced. At this time that is not the case. From

the best information obtainable it can, I think, be fairly said that we have about as many sheep as we have had at any time.

Our experience in marketing the 1936 crop of lambs should show quite clearly that increased numbers of lambs could not be marketed at a satisfactory price, certainly at least not without an extensive lamb advertising campaign.

While it is, of course, a wonderful thing when the individual grower can increase the size of his operation with largely his own money, it is unquestionably the history of this business that we have gotten into more trouble by overexpansion in both sheep and lands on borrowed money during good

times, than perhaps through all other causes.

Government policies are changing very rapidly these days. Our problems are becoming more varied and more important. There is special need for strong wool growers' associations in each of the states for home activities and to make the work and voice of the National Association stronger and more beneficial.

The National Wool Growers Association has a long and enviable record. Today there is greater need than at any other time for the service the organization can render to the sheep industry and to the Nation.

# The Secretary's Report

*As Submitted to the 72nd Annual Convention of the National Wool Growers Association*

## TARIFF AND IMPORTS

Imports of wool during 1936 were considerably higher than in previous years. This was largely the result of the increased domestic consumption which for two years has been materially in excess of home production. Amounts of wool "not finer than 44's" admitted under the Act of 1930 at lower rates of duty have continued to be small. Imports of lamb and mutton have been in extremely small volume. The figures on these imports for the ten months of 1936 and 1929 are shown below.

### Imports of Lamb, Wool and Mohair in 1936 and 1929

	1936		1929	
	Volume 10 Mos.	Rate of Duty	Volume 12 Mos.	Rate of Duty
Lamb (lbs.)	22,408	7 cents	3,146,000	4 cents
Mutton (lbs.)	2,711	5 cents	1,664,000	2½ cents
Sheep and Goats (head)	6,056	\$3.00	27,480	\$2.00
Canned Meats (lbs.)	82,427,000	6 cents	89,932,000	20%
Carpet Wools (lbs.)	105,818,000	Free	175,000,000	Free
Carpet Wools (lbs.)	26,755,000	24 cents		
Wool 40's to 44's (lbs.)	7,987,000	29 cents		
Clothing and Comb- ing Wool, finer than 44's (lbs.)	59,008,445	34 cents clean	102,207	31 cents clean
Mohair (lbs.)	1,125,000	34 cents	1,968,000	31 cents
Wool Rags (lbs.)	4,093,473	18 cents		
Sheep and Lamb Skins Wooled (lbs.)	7,906,000	Free	13,989,000	Free
Dry (lbs.)	8,592,000	Free	13,994,000	Free
Pickled (lbs.)	25,315,000	Free	37,495,000	Free
Goat and Kid Skins Dry (lbs.)	59,782,000	Free	83,830,000	Free
Green or Pickled (lbs.)	4,483,000	Free	16,279,000	Free

There has been no change in the tariff law, nor in duties applying to wool, lamb or mutton. The Canadian trade agreement, which was completed and announced in December, 1935, contained nothing regarding wool, lamb or mutton. Other trade agreements negotiated during 1936 have not included any wool or meat exporting country.

The results of the recent election have apparently been considered as full approval of the administration policy of negotiating reciprocal trade agreements, as authorized under the Act of June 12, 1934. The power extended to the President by that act expires on June 12, 1937, but there is little doubt that the 75th Congress will continue the present authorization. There may, however, be some debate upon an amendment to require submission to the Senate of terms of trade agreements that have been negotiated and as they are proposed to be placed in effect.

In his annual report, the Secretary of Agriculture suggested that, in the attempt to develop foreign trade, protective duties should not be lowered below what they were prior to the enactment of the tariff act which became effective June 17, 1930.

Under the Act of 1922, the duty on imported lamb and mutton was but four cents per pound as contrasted to the existing duty of seven cents per pound. In view of recent efforts of lamb exporting countries to gain admission to this market, it seems certain that reduction of the present rate of duty would be a serious blow to American producers, who have already been injured by unreasonably low lamb prices that prevailed during most of last year.

In an address delivered at Buenos Aires on December 2, 1936, President Roosevelt expressed the hope that "conversations may soon be undertaken between us (the United States and Argentine) in order to ascertain the basis which exists for the negotiation of a trade agreement between our

two countries which may prove to be mutually profitable between the people of the United States and the people of the Argentine."

No announcement has yet been made as to the intention to negotiate a treaty with the Argentine. Assurance has been given us by Washington officials that no such treaty will be attempted without the holding of public hearings in which all parties likely to be affected will have an opportunity to appear.

During the year we supported the application of the American National Live Stock Association for investigation of the present duties on canned meats, now coming in large volume from South American countries. The Act of 1930 placed a duty of six cents per pound upon fresh or frozen beef and also upon canned beef. While the fresh and frozen meats are excluded on account of the foot-and-mouth disease in those countries, that embargo does not apply to canned products. A pound of canned beef represents almost two pounds of carcass beef and the duty on the canned product should, therefore, be in the same ratio.

Early in December, the Tariff Commission rejected the application for the investigation referred to above.

#### ARGENTINE SANITARY CONVENTION

No action was taken in 1936 on the Argentine Sanitary Convention, which had been pending since May, 1935, before the Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate. However, President Roosevelt's speech at Buenos Aires on December 2, 1936, made it apparent that he may soon urge the Senate to ratify this so-called convention.

This matter must, of course, be considered and prosecuted solely on the basis of protection of the health of the domestic livestock and wildlife of the United States. However, I have requested the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations to hold hearings if consideration is to be given to the reporting of the convention to the Senate.

At the recent meeting of the United States Livestock Sanitary Association, which includes the leading veterinary officials of the country, strong opposition to ratification of the Argentine Sanitary Convention was voted.

Considerable material has been published by the Departments of Agriculture and State apparently calculated to show that the meat imports from the Argentine would consist only of lamb or mutton and would be of extremely small volume if the convention is made effective by the Senate. In fact, the data presented raises a question as to whether there would be any possible value from the limited imports that would be permitted. The fact remains, of course, that once the convention is made effective, the government officials to be designated by the President have full power to declare any other part of the Argentine as free from disease and thereby to admit additional imports.

Also, consideration must be given to the fact that with such power placed in the hands of appointive veterinary officials, they, in reporting upon the health conditions of

any Argentine area, would be subject to extreme pressure from Argentine producers, exporters, and probably also from officials of our own government. In fact, the complete freedom of American livestock from foot-and-mouth and related diseases since the passage of the Act of 1930 is strong evidence that the arrangement under the present law is the only safe one for the future.

#### RANGE LAND CONSERVATION

On February 29, 1936, Congress passed the Soil Conservation Act, which was the successor to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933.

Department of Agriculture officials held a conference of representatives of different branches of agriculture in Salt Lake City in March. At that time representatives of the western livestock industry went on record as opposed to benefit payments for such changes in cropping practice in the central states as would result in increased production of livestock in those states. However, the program that was finally put into effect for crop farmers in 1936, and as it has been announced for 1937, does not recognize this claim made by the range men last March.

It had been announced, and expected, that by mid-summer the details for application of the Soil Conservation Act to pasture and range lands would be put into effect. However, this was not finally accomplished until October. The plan then announced for the thirteen states of the western division related chiefly to the development of water, reseeding, fencing, etc., but had no reference to the making of payments for reducing the rate of stocking on range lands, or for adoption of a system of deferred or rotated grazing. No announcements have as yet been made as to the practices to be recognized in 1937 in connection with range lands, but it is probable that these latter practices will be recognized and included.

Before Congress adjourned, it was found that the terms of the act as framed in 1935 and 1936 did not permit the application of the plan to public lands upon which many thousands of stockmen are, to all intention and purposes, in the status of tenants. A special amendment covering this was introduced toward the close of the session, but no action was taken. The matter will probably be again considered by the 75th Congress.

The 1937 plans now being presented by the A.A.A. are, of course, entirely dependent upon the appropriation by Congress of funds for the year 1937. However, it is entirely probable that this appropriation will be made, and probably in the same amount as for 1936.

The 1936 plan was put into effect without any provision for the collection of any form of tax upon crops or livestock, the producers of which are beneficiaries under the Soil Conservation Act. The matter of taxes is handled solely by the finance committees of the Congress as a part of the revenue measure and fully distinct from the appropriation program. Late in the consideration of the revenue bill by the Senate last spring, Secretary Wallace appeared and strongly urged the levying of special taxes upon all

crops and livestock covered by the conservation plan. However, this recommendation was not adopted. It is now impossible to anticipate what action may be taken in this connection during the consideration of the next revenue bill.

The matter of control of production is not directly authorized or contemplated by the present law. However, the provisions of the law do contemplate that in 1938 operation of the plan shall be chiefly carried on by the various states. It is held that, in view of the Supreme Court decision on the Agricultural Adjustment Act, there would be no hindrance to the use by the states of federal grants of funds in state programs for control of production. To some extent the soil conservation plan is being used to reduce the production of major surplus crops. While the application of the plan to the West must inevitably reduce livestock production somewhat, it seems equally certain that, under continuation of the plan, livestock breeding and finishing would be increased in the larger farming states.

### LAMB MARKETING

The prices for lambs in the 1936 crop so far have been a very keen and serious disappointment to producers. When a price of \$12 for lambs grading "good" was reached at Chicago in May, it seemed that the supply and demand situation was satisfactory and likely to produce good returns for both shippers and processors. However, the market steadily declined until \$8.49 per hundred was recorded as the average monthly price for the month of October at Chicago for "good" lambs in comparison with \$9.23 for October, 1935.

#### Lamb Prices, Slaughter and Consumption in 1935-1936

	Slaughter		Chicago Monthly Prices for "Good" Lambs	
	1935	1936	1935	1936
January		1,539,735	\$ 8.81	\$10.24
February		1,313,922	8.54	9.79
March		1,373,784	8.17	9.76
April		1,266,393	8.11	10.86
May	1,584,125	1,212,814	8.38	11.58
June	1,420,685	1,308,683	8.22	11.16
July	1,545,804	1,352,468	7.96	9.63
August	1,665,449	1,395,374	8.68	9.26
September	1,548,865	1,593,000	9.34	9.17
October	1,764,535	1,741,798	9.23	8.49
November	1,406,985	1,543,916	10.30	8.72
December	1,368,654	1,573,065	10.92	8.69
TOTAL CROP	28,907,000	31,413,000		

Although the 1936 lamb crop was officially estimated as being two and a half million head larger than in 1935, at the end of the year the slaughter under federal inspection was a half million less. From May until August the kill for each month was less than in 1935. In September it was but 45,000 higher and in October 23,000 higher, than a year earlier. In November, however, it was 137,000 higher.

The comparatively light slaughter from a crop supposedly much larger was a surprise and puzzle to the trade and to shippers. The November increase, however, re-

vealed that much of the native lamb crop that was said to have been forced to early markets by the drought in central and eastern states was in fact carried through until late fall and then marketed at weights heavier than usual.

It also became apparent that an unusually large number of lambs in the range states had been held back because they needed more finish and they furnished an oversupply in November and December. Also, a large movement of ewe lambs from Montana and Wyoming to territory farther west caused a material reduction from the usual and expected number going to earlier markets from the mountain states.

Sixty per cent of the increased production of 1936, compared to 1935, was reported as being in Texas. While there was considerable fall movement of Texas lambs to feed lots, it was found that much of the increased crop of that state still was in the hands of breeders at the end of the year. The extent of this carryover and its final disposition cannot be fully known until the spring of 1937.

Neither producers nor processors can fully foresee and prepare for such an unusual course of events in the handling of any year's lamb crop. However, the extremely low prices from August through November constitute a puzzle which producers still have been unable to solve. The drop of prices from \$11 in June to \$8.50 in October by no means checks with the smaller supply and a slight lack of finish of a part of the western crop.

It was because of these conditions that the executive committee, at its August meeting, voted to request that a full study of lamb marketing affairs and price movements be made by the Department of Agriculture. Officials of the Department indicated that the situation would be investigated, but, as yet, no report has been made.

Plainly the fluctuations in lamb prices constitute the most serious problem of lamb raisers and the greatest threat to the future of the industry. The low prices of the summer months were held in effect in spite of reduced supplies, and in the face of material increases in the value of pelts and internal offal. In the same period, supplies of beef and pork were greater than in the corresponding period of 1935, but except for a limited supply of more fancy cattle, prices were well maintained. In this connection it must be considered that in 1935 both cattle and hogs had a phenomenal price rise which came earlier than the much smaller and temporary advance in lamb prices.

Some allowance must be made for a lack of finish of a part of the 1936 lamb crop, though that cannot be held as a reasonable explanation of summer prices so far out of line with cattle and hogs, and with the general increased buying power, lighter supplies and higher wool values.

It is, of course, generally known and recognized that consumers of lamb reside principally in the cities of the Pacific and Atlantic seaboard. A striking illustration of this is found in the statistics of dressed lambs shipped to and lambs slaughtered at the three cities shown in the table below in August and November, 1936.

(Continued on page 41)



# Five State Conventions in January

**G**REAT interest in current problems was manifest by the large number of wool growers who attended annual conventions held last month in Montana, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Utah.

In spite of the general bad weather conditions, almost average attendances were recorded in each state. Extremely cold weather was the rule throughout the month and many of those who planned to attend were deterred by impassible roads.

Current wool prices and possibility of increased exports of lamb were the subjects uppermost in the minds of wool growers and the representatives of related industries.

Wool contracting was not active during the convention, although several concerns were represented all around the circuit. A few transactions were announced, including the season's high, in the sale of the Small clip of western Montana at 38¼ cents. Many sheepmen expressed confidence in steady or higher prices and named figures on their clips considerably above any reported offers.

The Argentine Sanitary Convention was roundly scored in every state, not only by stock owners, but by sanitary officials having in charge the prevention and control of animal diseases. Strong but temperately worded resolutions and committee reports were adopted by each of the conventions in opposition to any change of national policy regarding admission of imports from countries in which serious contagious animal diseases are known to be prevalent.

It was the consensus of opinion that countries desiring to export meat to the United States should be required to establish and maintain standards of animal health on the same basis as those enforced in this country.

Current and prospective lamb prices also came in for extended discussion and speculation. Dissatisfaction over disappointing prices of last summer was generally expressed. The marked improvement that was reported at the middle of the month was generally attributed to the inauguration of the Nation-Wide Mid-Winter Lamb Sale. This new form of lamb campaign, as sponsored chiefly by the National Association of Food Chains, was announced early in the month to be continued for six weeks. Placing of orders by buyers for large distributing concerns was considered to have relieved the deadlock in the price situation at the lamb markets.

Administrative features of the Taylor Act and of the grazing branch of the United States Forest Service were widely discussed, but in less belligerent tone than in other recent years. Granting of ten-year permits to forest permittees appears to have lessened the tenseness of the situation that was precipitated in 1935, by extensive cuts to be made for the purpose of admitting new applicants to the forest grazing lands. On the public domain stockmen and administrative officials seem to be reaching a better accord,

although complaints are very numerous over reported illegal and unfair actions and decisions by local grazing boards.

President R. C. Rich of the National Wool Growers Association attended and addressed all conventions, except that in Utah, which was addressed by the National Secretary. A special feature at all the meetings was the very fine exhibit, showing the different steps in the manufacture of wool sent out by the Botany Worsted Mills of Passaic, New Jersey, and under the direction of Mr. Otto Stabell of that firm. Mr. Stabell not only very intelligently explained the exhibit to interested inquirers, but also talked at each of the conventions on the modern trends in woolen fabrics. For the exhibit and the appearance of Mr. Stabell, the wool growers were indebted to Colonel Chas. F. H. Johnson, president of Botany Mills.

In all cases convention committees convened in the afternoon of the day before the regular convention sessions. These advance meetings of convention committees result in much better considered resolutions and committee reports than were customarily adopted in earlier years when committees were not convened until after the commencement of the convention program. In some cases their time is still too short for desirable discussion of important matters. This is particularly true in connection with tariff and transportation, the best consideration of which often calls for consultation with representatives of interests not included in the regular committee membership.

The limitation of space in this issue of the National Wool Grower compels a too-abbreviated report of these important gatherings. The more outstanding features of each convention are tersely outlined in the separate reports which follow.

## Montana

### Billings—January 4-5-6

**T**HE Montana Wool Growers Association had a rebirth one year ago. At that time there were numerous changes in officers and the revamped organization came into possession of considerable funds which had previously accumulated or had been made available from the state set-up for cooperative wool marketing.

The annual address of President Harry A. Snyder dealt largely with the financial affairs of the association. It was shown that over \$23,000 became available to the association during 1936. This was used in part for the support of the regular association activities.

Secretary Kathleen Nielsen reported that 1936 collections of dues were sufficient in amount to pay only one third

of association expenditures. Montana's full quota of the budget of the National Association was shown to have been paid. A detailed statement of all expenditures and assets was presented.

Harry A. Snyder was reelected president; Peter Pauly was named as vice president, succeeding Dr. H. C. Gardiner, who was transferred to the chairmanship of the executive committee. Messrs. C. E. Sime and Wallace Kingsbury were placed on the executive committee.

A new board of trustees was named: for one-year terms Peter Pauly, H. A. Snyder and C. C. Jamison; for two-year terms, Dr. H. C. Gardiner, Percy Williamson and C. E. Sime; for three-year terms, Howard Doggett, Wallace Kingsbury and Howard Morse. In electing them as honorary presidents for life, a graceful and well-merited compliment was paid to D. C. White, Jeff Doggett and Charles Bair. Henry Sieben and C. H. Williams were named honorary presidents one year ago.

### Resolutions

Among resolutions adopted were those which called for:

1. Presentation to the legislature of an enlarged program for predatory animal control to be developed by representatives of the Livestock Commission, State Fish and Game Commission, Montana Stock Growers Association, the Dude Ranchers Association, the Biological Survey and the Montana Wool Growers Association.
2. Elimination of the bounty on predatory animals.
3. Reduction of the charge of 8½ cents per hundredweight for stopping livestock for grazing or feeding in transit.
4. Approval of the Pettengill Bill.
5. Permanent establishment of a Fat Lamb Show for 4-H Club members and Future Farmers of America.
6. Request that the State Board of Land Commissioners notify users of state lands before completing exchange arrangements with the federal government.
7. Investigation on the feasibility of legislation requiring all sheep owners to file marks of ownership or identification.
8. Opposition to unnecessary extension and enlargement of game preserves.
9. Approval of the work of the National Meat Board and a recommendation that the charges collected at the markets for support of this board be increased from 25 cents per car to \$1 per car.
10. Opposition to the Argentine Sanitary Convention as follows: "We are uncompromisingly opposed to the ratification

of the Argentine Sanitary Convention now pending before the Senate Committee of Foreign Relations, which would permit the importation of livestock products from zones reported to be free from foot-and-mouth disease, and we are opposed to resolutions or any kind of sanitary conventions or treaties whereby the possibility of importing foot-and-mouth disease or any other highly infectious or contagious diseases into this country is possible, and we request Senators Murray and Wheeler to oppose the ratification of all such treaties as may be submitted to the Senate of the United States."

### Wool Show

Over 100 fleeces were entered in the wool show conducted by the association during the convention. Separate prizes for ram and ewe fleeces were offered in each of five breeds with additional premiums for fleeces entered in the classes for market grades of wool.

### Program

Honorary President Charles H. Williams occupied the chair during most of the convention sessions. Peter Spraynozzle of Salt Lake City addressed the sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. He also excelled himself before the banquet held on the evening of January 5.

National President R. C. Rich delivered an address on the afternoon of the first day, in which he outlined the basis of true conservation of natural resources and decried utterances of some radical individuals who do not in fact speak either for sportsmen or practical conservationists. He expressed confidence in continuation of the protective tariff on wool and based his expectations on the statements of President Roosevelt contained in a letter to Senator O'Mahoney on June 5, 1934. He also outlined recent activities of the National Wool Growers Association in attempting to work out a practical and worth-while method of labeling wool fabrics for the protection of consumer buyers and the manufacturers of high-quality goods.

In closing, Mr. Rich urged the strengthening of all wool growers' associations and active participation of all wool growers, both in contributing financial support and in framing and directing programs undertaken in the states for promoting the industry and bringing it to its highest point of service to the public.

## Washington

Yakima—January 8-9

THE subjects discussed in greatest detail during the convention sessions were the range conservation program and sheep diseases. Mr. J. M. McGregor of Hooper, Washington, Mr. C. S. Maddox, extension livestock specialist of the Washington State College, and Mr. D. L. Sanders, district agriculturalist, presented the range conservation program in detail.

The discussion of sheep diseases was made by Dr. E. C. McCullough of the Veterinary Department of the Washington State College, Dr. Marvin Hales director of livestock and dairies of the State of Washington, and Dr. Kilpatrick of the state veterinary force.

Matters pertaining to the forestry service were presented to the convention by Mr. Brundage, associate regional forester, and Mr. Ed Burkmier, assistant regional forester, Portland, and Mr. Glen Smith, assistant regional

forester, Missoula, Montana. Mr. William Rush, regional director of the Biological Survey of Portland, Oregon, presented a report to the convention of the activities of the Biological Survey in this section.

General topics, such as Argentine Sanitary Convention, tariffs, markets, etc., were discussed by Mr. R. C. Rich, president of the National Wool Growers Association, Mr. John T. Caine, III, of the Chicago Union Stock Yards, Mr. E. N. Wentworth of Armour and Company and Mr. H. W. Mathews of Swift and Company, also Mr. Philip Evans of the National Wool Marketing Corporation.

Mr. G. H. Owens of the State Land Department reported on the activities of this department and pledged his support to cooperate with livestock producers. Mr. William Steinhart, president of the Spokane County Sports

Council, spoke on the cooperation necessary between sports groups and livestock groups.

Dances were held each night under the auspices of the Ladies Auxiliary and a banquet with 300 in attendance was held on the evening of January 9.

The old officers were reelected for the ensuing year, namely: T. J. Drumheller, president; V. O. McWhorter, vice president; J. F. Sears, secretary.

Official expressions of the association included the following:

### **Argentine Sanitary Convention**

1. We strongly oppose ratification by the United States Senate, and making effective, of the Argentine Sanitary Convention that was submitted to the Senate in May, 1935, as an agreement signed by the Secretary of State and the Argentine Ambassador at Washington and contemplating admission to this country of meats from "disease-free zones" of the Argentine.

We insist that other countries wishing to enter our country's markets with their animal products can have no reasonable grounds for complaint when we ask that they maintain the same standards of health of livestock that are maintained in the United States.

The outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease that occurred here in 1924 caused an enormous loss to American stockmen who cheerfully supported the American policy of complete eradication of that dreadful and loathsome disease at any cost. At that time it was necessary to slaughter many thousands of deer in areas in which the disease had spread from domestic livestock to the wildlife.

The terms of the Argentine Sanitary Convention certainly would increase the probability of having the foot-and-mouth disease again get a foothold in this country. We must ask and urge that any country seeking to enter our markets shall at least employ health measures equivalent to those effective in the United States and supported by our livestock producers. We request that the United States Senators from the State of Washington oppose the ratification of this instrument and instruct our secretary to transmit this resolution to them.

### **The Tariff**

2. The greatly improved conditions in business and in foreign trade show that the tariff policy embodied in the law of 1930 permits and supports domestic industry and agriculture and also permits a large volume of necessary imports, most of which are admitted on a duty-free basis.

We commend and appreciate the continuation of the policy of the Act of 1930 almost in its entirety during the last four years and ask for its continuation.

From the standpoint of the interests, not only of our own business, but of the commercial structure of the Nation, we cannot subscribe to a policy apparently followed in connection with some of the reciprocal trade agreements that have been negotiated under the Act of 1934. To encourage importation of agricultural products as a means of facilitating exports of factory products is not fair even to industry. It goes toward destroying a proper balance between urban and rural life and employment. Logically pursued, a policy of trading off agriculture through imports, as a means of fostering industrial exports, ultimately must lead to an unsafe dependence upon foreign countries for supplies of food and clothing that can be produced efficient-

ly and economically in the United States and at reasonable cost in consideration of the standards of living which this administration laudably is striving to establish in the cities and on our farms and ranches.

3. A rate of 12½ cents per head, with board, was approved for shearing in 1937.

4. Legislation to hinder or restrict sales outlets for lambs was opposed.

5. It was asked that there be labeling of all fabrics and garments purporting to contain wool so as to show the actual content of fiber other than wool.

6. Central filing, within 30 days, of chattel mortgages on livestock was advocated.

7. Notice was given that future efforts of the association will be primarily directed to serve the interests of members.

## **Oregon**

**Ontario—January 12-13**

A LARGE attendance at the Oregon convention taxed Ontario facilities for housing. Problems of range administration have been acute in Malheur County and concern several residents in Idaho. The Ontario gathering furnished an opportunity for conference between all interests and government officials.

In his annual address President J. G. Barratt spoke with emphasis on a number of matters affecting the sheep industry. He expressed the belief that controlled burning of brush in some forest areas was needed to remove serious fire hazards, which in recent years have resulted in material damage. The Pacific Coast shipping strike comes close to the interests of Oregon producers and President Barratt suggested, "If the federal government won't stop the strike, it is time for the people of Oregon to do what they can."

Mr. Barratt also expressed uncompromising opposition to any importation of livestock products from the Argentine that involve risk of the introduction into this country of the foot-and-mouth disease. He asserted that Oregon wool growers are also unanimously in favor of the Taylor Grazing Act, even though its administration may result in a 40 per cent reduction in range sheep.

Mr. Barratt was reelected as president for another term. Mr. Herman Oliver was voted in as vice president,

but after the close of the convention sent word that he was not available for the office.

The report of Secretary Walter A. Holt showed some gain in membership and particularly in dues collections for 1936. The Oregon quota of the budget of the National Wool Growers Association was shown to have been paid in full.

The chief convention entertainment was an evening banquet presided over by Mac Hoke. Local musical features were interspersed with numerous prepared and impromptu speeches.

Among the outstanding features of the two-day program were the following: Address on financial and general affairs by Mac Hoke; discussion by Dr. E. L. Potter of an economic study of relationships of forest grazing to utilization of farm lands; a demonstration by D. E. Richards of the relationship of size of ewes to profits; a discussion of methods of range appraisals as employed by the division of grazing by A. D. Molohon; Wildlife and Agriculture by W. M. Rush of the Biological Survey; Conservation of Range Lands in 1937 by Professor P. M. Brandt, and the Nation-Wide Mid-Winter Lamb Sale by F. R. Marshall.

The Oregon Women's Auxiliary is one of the most effective that has been organized. Two separate sessions were held featuring a discussion of buying



woolen fabrics by Mrs. Azalea Sager.

Reports presented to the convention by various special committees reflected careful consideration of numerous important topics. Among the notable statements and recommendations were the following:

1. A request for correlation in the making of range surveys by the Division of Grazing, Soil Conservation Service, Forest Service and State Colleges.

2. Amendment of the Oregon Forest Protection Act to provide for zoning of lands to the end that fire control regulations may be established suitable for employment on timber and grazing areas.

3. It was asserted that cuts made in grazing permits for protection and distribution of forage should be based solely on the demands from bona fide stockmen, and that cuts for distribution should be made solely on temporary permits and those in excess of numbers stated in term permits.

4. Commendation of the federal program on conservation of range lands and request for provision for payments on construction of boundary fences instead of only cross fences and drift fences recognized in 1936. Disapproval was expressed on the reduction announced for 1937 of the maximum payments per animal unit.

5. Recommendation for establishment of auxiliary livestock highways.

6. Recommendation for establishment by the National Wool Growers Association of a department for assisting state associations in membership and other work.

7. Requesting a state appropriation of \$15,000 for study of sheep diseases.

8. Opposition to repeal or amendment of the fourth section of the Interstate Commerce Act.

9. Opposition to six-hour day for railroad employees. Opposition to railroad control or operation of truck transportation. Recommendation for establishment of carload rates on partial cars that cannot safely be loaded under the established minimum with large shipments.

10. Request for discontinuance of discounts on tags and black wool. Recommendation for study of the results obtained by wool cooperative and auction systems as compared with direct sale in the country to dealers.

11. Appreciation of the activities of the U. S. Senate committee for investigation of wool marketing practices. It was urged that the report of the investigation and the findings of the committee be published for the information of growers.

12. Recommendation for state legislation making it mandatory on the part of manufacturers to attach labels to woolen garments to disclose the percentage of fibers other than wool.

13. It was asked that hunters and trappers of predatory animals be relieved from

necessity of obtaining licenses and that closed seasons on bears established in some counties be removed.

14. It was recommended that the present methods of controlling predatory animals "be supplemented by an adequate federal bounty on coyotes, said bounty to be handled by the Biological Survey." An appropriation of \$60,000 from the state for the coming two years was recommended for use in matching county funds.

15. The association urged growers to arrange for deduction of 10 cents per

bag for support of Associated Wool Industries.

16. The following statement was adopted in connection with the Argentine Sanitary Convention: "We are opposed to ratification of the Argentine Sanitary Convention placed before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and which would allow the importation of livestock products from zones of foreign countries in which foot-and-mouth disease is prevalent. We request Senators McNary and Steiwer to oppose such proposed arrangements."

## Idaho

Pocatello—January 14-15-16

QUESTIONS of range use and possible lamb imports were prominent in the minds and discussions of those attending the 44th annual convention of the Idaho Wool Growers Association.

The response to Mayor Terrell's address of welcome was delivered by Mrs. Emma R. Yearian, whose references to sheep affairs evidenced the full capacity for handling range operations successfully exercised by her for several years.

The annual address of President T. C. Bacon covered matters of imports, finance, and range use. His considered and temperate remarks upon the wildlife problem defined the situation in a fair and statesmanlike style, and he denied the impression that sometimes is sought to be conveyed that the range livestock industry is in conflict with the program of game conservation. On this question the president said, "We have no quarrel with the fair-minded sportsman and will be glad and willing to cooperate in any reasonable program on wildlife conservation."

"In all fairness, who is the real conservator of game—the man who hunts it down to kill, or the man who feeds it?" asked Mr. Bacon. "Both the stockman and the farmer have a sympathetic understanding of the habits of game animals and birds. In fact, farmers and stockmen have in their control, to a large extent, the preservation of game, and any sound game conservation movement must, of necessity, look to them for support."

The National President, R. C. Rich, spoke emphatically regarding the importance of present wool tariff rates

and asserted that no business-like judgment of sheep affairs under recent conditions could find that wool prices are out of line with values of other commodities.

W. H. Philbrick, one of the original organizers of the Idaho Association, was named as honorary president. Mr. Bacon declined to accept another term and was succeeded by Mr. Merle L. Drake, Challis. Mr. H. B. Soulen, Weiser, Idaho, was continued as vice president and M. C. Claar as secretary.

The report and financial statement of the secretary showed 1936 dues collections in the amount of \$8,200, which accounted for all expenditures and full payment of the state quota of the budget of the National Association.

Reports and statements adopted as final expressions of the association evidence unusual care in preparation. We, therefore, print the full text of the report dealing with the Argentine Sanitary Convention and sanitary requirements in connection with imports under reciprocal trade agreements.

### Argentine Convention

The livestock of the United States have suffered from several outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease introduced from foreign nations. Scientific investigation in England and here proved that this disease was carried from nation to nation by means of meat taken from animals suffering from, or seemingly recovered from, foot-and-mouth disease. The last outbreak of this disease in California was traced directly to meat scraps that originated in South America. These scraps were the refuse from meat purchased in South America and eaten enroute by the occupants of the ship. To be infective, such scraps must have come from animals in-

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# Review of the 1936 Wool Market and Prospects for Values in 1937

*Address by C. J. Fawcett, General Manager,  
National Wool Marketing Corporation, before  
the 72nd Annual Convention of the National  
Wool Growers Association, Albuquerque,  
N. M., January 28, 1937*



**C. J. FAWCETT**  
*General Manager, National Wool  
Marketing Corporation*

CONSUMPTION of over 500,000,000 pounds of greasy shorn wool in 1935, or about 60 per cent more than we produced in that same year, cleared practically all the carryover of domestic wool and accounted for considerable foreign wool in addition thereto. We began the season of 1936 from scratch, so to speak, so far as supplies of raw wool are concerned. Prediction was freely made that consumption would fall off sharply in 1936. On the contrary, as early as July we found that our consumption was running well up to the banner year of 1935. It was about this time that a shortage in domestic wool became very evident.

Thus, it will be seen that the stage has been set for many months for a substantial rise in wool values. The full strength of the market, however, which seemed fully justified by a very short supply and normal demand, was not fully realized until November and December. The delay in the rise of prices was caused largely, we believe, by the willingness of the majority of the wool merchants to sell in the months of July and August, or as quickly as a small profit could be obtained, regardless of actual values based on supply and demand and foreign importing parity of similar wools. Perhaps the anxiety on

the part of merchants to unload is responsible for the sagging values in June, July, and August. We feel that the firm selling policy of the National, controlling perhaps the largest volume of wool, contributed much to the rise in values of domestic wool in the past few months. The market advanced about 20 per cent from November 1 to January 1. Today we are selling domestic wool well above the duty-paid cost of similar foreign wools.

## *The World Markets*

The strength of the wool market is not a local affair. In every wool producing country of the world markets have advanced sharply. Demand is keen, particularly so since January 1. Early in the season Japan declared a boycott against Australian wool. This was an effort to retaliate against England for some of the trade barriers that had been placed by John Bull. It was evident early in the present season that Japan would hardly be able to acquire enough wool from South America and South Africa to enable her to stay out of the Australian market. In the last decade Japan has increased her annual wool requirements from 250,000 bales to about 750,000, largely of the finer grades, and usually purchased in Australia. Early in this year

Japan entered the Australian markets and has been taking about 65 per cent of each offering since.

The war clouds in Europe have, no doubt, played an important part in stimulating demand for wool, for it is said that wool is the first commodity required to satisfactorily equip an army. It is estimated that 20 pounds of clean wool is required to outfit a soldier for a year fighting in the front lines, and there is little or no recoverable product from this class of material. Judging by the manner in which every European nation is arming itself, much wool will probably be required for some years to come for this purpose.

## *Are Wool Prices High?*

In view of the great demand for wool the world over, we are wondering whether present values are really high. In a review of the year 1924, to which many economists choose to refer as normal, we find that wool from Wyoming, for instance, was selling freely at 50 cents and above per grease pound, that fleece wool from the farm wool states was selling at 60 cents and above per pound. Again in 1928 we find that average original bag territory wool was selling at \$1.15 to \$1.17 per clean pound, which is about 10 to 15 per cent above present values. So, the ques-

tion may well be asked, in view of the small stocks of wool, whether we are not entering into an era of high grease wool values that will most likely continue for a number of years. Medium grades, such as quarter and three eighths produced by black-faced sheep, seem to be in the strongest position, not only in this country but in foreign countries as well. This is probably due to the fact that around 70 per cent of the clothing wool of the world is fine and half-blood. The medium grades are in relatively small supply. This fact is clearly demonstrated by sales now taking place in New Zealand. Quite a large percentage of the New Zealand wools are of the medium grades. Very high values are prevailing at auctions of medium wool now being held in New Zealand.

### *Future Wool Clips*

There seems to be little prospect of increasing the domestic clip to any marked degree for a number of years to come. Texas is about the only section of the country that is showing a marked increase in wool production. That portion of Montana east of the Rocky Mountains, North and South Dakota, sections in Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska have been seriously injured by the drought. This condition has not only contributed to a very much smaller wool clip, but has also decreased the value, in many cases, of the wool produced. It would seem that our production of greasy shorn wool will not greatly exceed 350,000,000 pounds for some years to come, and it also seems to be a fair assumption that consumption will also be about 100,000,000 pounds in excess of production. One of the most important factors, therefore, pertaining to our industry, is the assurance that our domestic market for wool will be preserved. The present tariff is the most scientific and effective that we have ever had in the history of the United States. Any reciprocal trade treaty with a foreign country involving wool where a lowering of duty is effected, notwithstanding the strength of foreign wool, would seriously interfere with values of our domestic market. The present 34

cents per clean pound duty reflects a grease pound duty of 21 to 23 cents per pound on South American 56's, which is a type comparable to our domestic three-eighths grade. This convention, as well as every state wool growers' organization, should do everything in its power to prevent any such action, for this is a proposition in which the growers and woolen manufacturers are equally interested. It should be remembered that without the domestic woolen manufacturers, our product would have little value. It is desirable from every viewpoint that closer cooperation should exist between the wool growing industry and the manufacturing industry, for by and large what affects one branch of the industry adversely will likewise have the same effect on the other.

### *Competition from Other Fibers*

While the present wool values are quite satisfactory, we cannot close our eyes to the danger of increased competition from competing fibers, of which rayon is the most prominent. It is interesting to note that in 1926 there was sold in the United States about 60,000,000 pounds of rayon yarn, while in the year of 1936 there was sold about 360,000,000 pounds. On December 31, 1936, only three days' supply existed in the hands of mills. The rayon mills are far behind with their orders. This factor is cited by those who are seeking to bear the wool market. It is true that rayon has taken the place of much wool. It probably has made greater inroads, however, in the consumption of both cotton and silk. A manufacturer recently said to the writer, "We have not yet found a satisfactory method of blending wool and rayon." It is true, however, that higher values of wool will provoke greater effort on the part of manufacturers to use substitutes. The Associated Wool Industries has done much to promote the increased use of wool. Much more can be done. As a member of the Executive Committee of the Associated Wool Industries, representing the wool growing industry, I have strongly advocated an educational program with the 4-H clubs of the United States, as well as

in public schools and institutions working through the Smith-Hughes and other educational groups.

Now that the manufacturers of worsteds, particularly men's wear, are using a percentage of rayon, it becomes more and more important that we have a compulsory labeling act. So long as rayon is being used with wool in the manufacture of worsteds, the rayon people are deriving considerable benefit from our money that is expended in promoting the use of wool. We are paying the fiddler and the rayon people are enjoying the dance. Wool tops are selling today at \$1.35 per pound. Rayon tops are selling at 40 cents per pound. Cloth has been exhibited on Summer Street, it is claimed, containing as much as 40 per cent rayon, yet sold practically on a par with all-wool worsteds. It is our contention that the consuming public is entitled to know the content of the commodity for which it is paying money. If, as claimed by the rayon people, a useful article can be made from a high percentage of rayon and wool, the article should be priced to the consuming public in accordance therewith. To this end, we have made plans to have a Truth-in-Fabric bill introduced in the Senate at once. We feel sure that more support may be expected from the worsted mills than ever before and that there is a very good chance of this bill passing. Every wool growers' organization should also get behind this bill that will soon be introduced in the Senate. While the present condition of the wool market is stable and economically sound, we must not cease our vigilance. We must not overlook the fact that if adulteration is permitted to progressively increase, the loss of poundage in manufacturing processes and its corresponding effect on prices of wool will shortly assume serious proportions, and the full benefit of the price structure we have established during the season of 1936 may, to a degree, be lost.

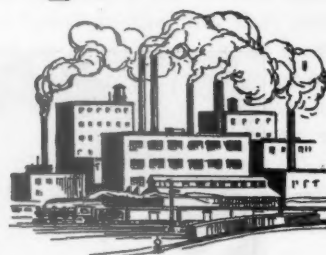
The National Wool Marketing Corporation is not only attempting to perform a real marketing service for the wool growing industry of the United States, but is interesting itself, so far

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# National Wool Marketing Corporation

## News Bulletin



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GROWER OWNED AND OPERATED

THE demand for wool during the fore part of the opening month of the new year continued strong, with all the world markets showing an upward tendency and distinctly against the buyer. Our domestic wools were in exceedingly short supply, and the demand for spot wool continued, as a result of which prices advanced from two to four cents clean above those quoted in our last letter.

The opening sales this year in Australia showed a keen demand, with Japan participating very actively and taking a large percentage of the offerings, and with England, the Continent and America also participating. However, toward the middle of the month the action of Japan in practically withdrawing from the sales was a little puzzling and confusing. Several reasons were advanced for Japan's practical withdrawal at the time. The real one seemed to be that her financial arrangements were not quite so easy as they had been, due perhaps to a condition of political unrest. However, whatever the reason for Japan's lack of eagerness to buy at that time, it seems to have been clarified, since, in the Australian sales which opened on February 2, she was again an active participant. During the period after Japan's withdrawal, there was a considerable irregularity and, in a sense, a weaker tone in the market. However, with her re-entry the foreign market has shown a new tendency toward regularity and firmness.

The automobile strike is still, of course, a very disturbing element, and its continuation has no doubt contributed considerably to the general inactivity of the market at present. It is to be hoped that a satisfactory settlement will soon be made, for a long-drawn-out labor dispute in this important industry might, as it were, prove contagious to other lines of industry, and would, of course, seriously affect us all. However, we hope that this strike will soon be settled.

The arrival, of course, of large weights of Australian wool in this market has tended to lessen the pressure for spot wool, and has made manufacturers less eager to pay the premium that had obtained on domestic spot wools up to now. We are today faced with the anomalous situation whereby all-Australian tops are offered at considerably less than tops made of domestic wools. Generally this situation is reversed.

We have, of course, had the tragedy of a great flood in the Ohio Valley, entailing as it does a tremendous loss of life and property. It is to be presumed that most of the

property being destroyed will sooner or later have to be replaced—perhaps not immediately, but within two or three months, and a considerable amount of it will require the use of wool.

Contracting, since the turn of the year, has been more or less scattered, and except for a few contracts placed in Texas recently, one of which brought 40 cents, has practically ceased. It is reported here in this market that a considerable number of the 1937 contracts have been turned to the manufacturers. Many of the early contracts disposed of in this manner show a very decent profit (to the dealer).

The government has recently awarded some very large contracts for shirtings and overcoatings. The shirtings call for worsted wools, and the overcoatings for woolen type wools. While we believe the manufacturers who obtained these contracts have covered their requirements, we, nevertheless, feel that this large piece of business will act as a stimulating influence on the market in general.

In summarizing, we believe that the wool market is fundamentally sound, both here and abroad, and while at the minute the market is extremely inactive, the outlook for wool is particularly favorable. The wool grower, no doubt, will be faced with the not unusual easing off in prices at shearing time. It would, therefore, seem that growers who consign their wool will be more likely to receive the full benefit of what appears to be a very favorable outlook for wool in the long pull. The growers who consigned their 1936 clip certainly have had their judgment fully vindicated.

### *Government Contracts Awarded*

RECENT contracts placed by the government for woolen and worsted goods amounted to approximately 6,500,000 yards, about 4,000,000 worsteds and about 2,500,000 yards of overcoatings. Delivery will be made on these contracts over the next ten months and it is estimated this will require from ten to fourteen million pounds grease wool equivalent in the manufacturing process. This is equal to a year's production of one of the average territory-wool states required to complete this one government order. It should be remembered that this government order is in addition to the civilian consumption, which has averaged 50,000,000 per month from January to November, inclusive, in the season of 1936. This would appear to be a very bullish factor as far as wool values are concerned for the coming season.

# FOREIGN WOOL



*New Zealand wool—two sacks to the bale—as it leaves the hold of the ship.*



*Australian wool being weighed by U. S. Customs Inspectors. Note the scales they use.*



*So much foreign wool arrived in Boston during January that all commercial piers were full. In the emergency, ships were allowed to unload here at the Army Base.*



*The accurate weight of the tare is checked continuously. Leo O'Brien, well known on Summer Street, as manager of a large trucking concern, is pinch-hitting for the custom's officer.*

**W**OOL differs from other agricultural commodities in that we produce no exportable surplus. We produce in this country an average of only about two thirds of our annual requirements of raw wool. The balance must be secured from foreign wool-growing countries. Practically all of the wool required by the carpet mills is imported into this country free of duty, for we probably produce less than 2,000,000 pounds of strictly carpet wool in the United States. Thus it will be seen that the importation of carpet wool free of duty does not greatly interfere with our domestic sheep industry.

It is, however, essential that we have adequate protection against foreign clothing wools. The present clean content duty reflects a grease equivalent of 21 to 23 cents per pound on South American medium wools. The National Wool Marketing Corporation has been an important factor in lifting domestic values to foreign importing parity and our domestic wool growers are today receiving full benefit



*The largest shipment of Australian wool ever received in Boston, about ten million pounds, was unloaded during January into the four sections of this pier. This is one of the sections.*

of the duty. In January, because of the small supply of spot wool available in this country, we were able to obtain prices above foreign values, plus the duty.

The foreign parity for any particular grade of domestic wool is simply the price at which similar wool can

be imported from abroad, plus the duty which must be paid on this foreign wool. Stated in this way the formula sounds very simple, but in deciding whether or not to purchase a lot of foreign wool, the importer must take many additional factors into consideration. In the first place, a transaction in foreign exchange must usually be made. If the foreign wool is to be paid for in English money the importer must obtain from his banker a quotation at which he can buy pounds sterling with his United States dollars.

The next factor which must be considered is the difference in the so-called "conversion cost." It costs less per clean pound to produce tops from Australian wool than from similar domestic wool. In the first place, the Australian wool will average to shrink 20 to 25 per cent less. Also, the Australian wool will generally yield less percentage of noils. The point is that starting with the freight, the charges for converting grease wool into tops are made on a grease basis. Obviously, if a hundred pounds of Australian wool actually produces a higher percentage of tops than a hundred pounds of similar territory domestic wool, the charges expressed in cents per clean pound of top are less for the foreign product and the manufacturer must do his figuring on the clean basis.

[This is the fifth of a series of articles on "The Marketing of Your Wool," written by the National Wool Marketing Corporation.]

## The Boston Wool Market

CONDITIONS in the Boston wool market for the week ending February 5 have been reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics as follows:

Boston wool houses had very few outlets for domestic wools in the past week at the prices asked for the limited remaining spot supplies. The urgent demand that required buyers to pay a substantial premium for domestic wools had dwindled to only occasional calls for small quantities to piece out stocks. Buyers who were looking for domestic wools to cover future needs had their ideas of prices set at levels considerably below the prices they had been paying for spot domestic wools in the past month. Their judgment of domestic wool values was being influenced by the prices of foreign

wools here and abroad.

The effect upon prices of an urgent demand when supplies are extremely limited was shown by sales of fine Delaine Ohio wools at advanced prices in the range 46-48 cents, in the grease. Other grades of Ohio wools offered within recent selling price ranges were of no interest to buyers at the moment.

Quotations were mostly steady on territory wools although largely nominal because of the extremely small trade. Holders were very firm on asking prices for graded wools. Small quantities of original fine territory wools of inferior character were reported slightly easier because of the irregularly lower prices at which spot Australian wools suitable for topmakers were available. Original fine territory wools of good character are firmly held at \$1.05-1.08, scoured basis, for average to short French combing length, at \$1.08-1.10 for average to good French combing and at \$1.10-1.12 for good French combing and staple combing length.

Prices were irregular on spot fine Australian Merino and crossbred, South American wools. Some houses were refusing to accept bids below their recent selling prices while others were willing to grant concessions in view of the generally slower demand.

The only business reported on mohair in Boston was sales of small lots of sorted mohair and mohair tops at firm prices. Dealers reported contracting for the spring clip in Texas at 62-65 cents for adult mohair.

## Review of the 1936 Wool Market and Prospects for Values in 1937

(Continued from page 32)

as possible, in legislative and other matters of importance to the industry as a whole. We are planning to gather more useful statistics bearing on supply and demand for our product for the use of our consignors, and be a real service corporation to the industry, in a broad sense of the word. There can be no doubt that the National has performed a very worth-while marketing service in 1936. Having faith in the wool market as we did, the management, in connection with the Executive Committee, pursued what has proved to be a wise course in marketing the 1936 consignments. Eighty per cent of our holdings were sold in the months of November, December, and the fore part of January when practically all other stocks in the hands of dealers were exhausted.

It is now evident that growers who entered into contracts for their 1937

clip were not fully advised as to the probable strength of the market for the coming year. Proof of this statement is found in the fact that such contracts are now being offered freely to mills at 7@8 cents per clean pound less than the prevailing market. We see nothing in the immediate future to warrant the expectation of lower values in wool. On the contrary, practically every factor tends toward increasing scarcity with higher values. It is interesting to note that in the past two years we have consumed about 1,200,000,000 pounds of wool, or the equivalent of three years' production. In view of the scarcity in foreign countries, the question may well be asked, "From whence cometh an adequate supply of wool to meet our requirements?"

We believe we have a valuable service to offer to the wool growing industry of the country, and we earnestly desire your cooperation and suggestions that will assist us in increasing our usefulness.

## Merino Meeting

THE 31st annual meeting of the American and Delaine Merino Record Association was held at the Southern Hotel, Columbus, Ohio, January 13. The fees for the coming year will be 35 cents for recording lambs, 50 cents for older sheep, and transfers at 25 cents. Premium offers at fairs will be resumed to be distributed to different states at the rate of 5 cents per record, based on 1936 figures. The publication of the annual record volume will be continued.

Officers for 1937 are as follows: President, W. L. Fisk, Newark, Ohio; vice president, C. L. Robb, Cadiz, Ohio; secretary-treasurer, Gowdy Williamson, Xenia, Ohio. Pedigree committee is composed of: Geo. W. Deeds, Pataskala, Ohio; C. H. Bell, Ashley, Ohio; J. J. Scheetz, Coshocton, Ohio, and the executive board of: C. J. Hill, Chesterhill, Ohio; G. Krantz, Dover, Ohio; G. E. Helser, LaFayette, Ohio; A. R. Jewell, Centerburg, Ohio; C. L. Robb, Cadiz, Ohio; O. J. Blamer, Johnstown, Ohio, and Walter Staley, Marysville, Ohio.

Gowdy Williamson, Secretary



# Five State Conventions in January

## Idaho

(Continued from page 30)

fected with this disease, in which case the meat should never have been sold for human consumption and could not be so sold in the United States. To meet this situation in 1930, the Congress of the United States passed legislation which prohibited the importation of meat from countries in which foot-and-mouth disease prevailed. The effectiveness of this law is well demonstrated by the fact that not a single case of this disease has occurred in this country since its passage. For this our stockmen are grateful.

It is now proposed that this law be so modified as to permit the importation of meat from countries in which the disease exists, but from parts of such country which are said to be free from such disease. This proposal just means that this country either would have to accept the word of the infected country as to the freedom of some section from disease, or police the country to determine this fact. The latter course clearly is impossible. That the word of such country on this point is unreliable is amply demonstrated by the fact that meat from infected animals was sold our ships and the refuse from such meat brought us this disease.

At great public expense, the livestock of many of the world's progressive countries have been freed of this disease. To such countries the existing law offers no embarrassment. If the world is to be freed from this disease, all countries must be forced to eradicate it. The existing law has this purpose in view, as well as the protection of the public health. We are, therefore, unalterably opposed to any modification of existing law and call upon our members of the United States Senate to oppose any so-called sanitary pact with the Argentine or any other country.

The record shows that during the past year, edible animal products have been imported into the United States from a large number of foreign countries, many of which are generally presumed to maintain sanitary inspection of these products at a standard far below that required for similar products produced in this country. The sanitary requirements for food products of animal origin maintained in this country and kept up at tremendous expense to producers, cities, states, and federal government, are maintained to protect public health and general welfare. To permit the importation of similar products of a questionable or lower sanitary standard not only imperils the public health but is unfair to our producers of competitive products.

Under the reciprocal trade agreements now being enacted, the sanitary require-



Merle L. Drake, newly elected President of the Idaho Wool Growers Association

ments, if in dispute, are left to a committee of the contracting countries to adjust which may or may not bring imported products within the full range of American requirements. We are dissatisfied with any such provision and insist that all imported food products of animal origin shall, without exception, conform to the standards maintained in this country. Such a provision should be incorporated in the act providing for these treaties.

On the question of prices for 1930 lambs, the convention adopted this statement:

### Lamb Prices

During the year 1936, our lambs, generally speaking, sold at prices which did not give a fair return to the producer. Lamb prices throughout most of the year ruled very low at a time when the price of other meat animals was definitely above those being paid for lamb. An examination of lamb marketings, in comparison with the marketings of other livestock, does not justify the wide price discrimination from which our lambs suffered. We are repeatedly told that lamb is being sold at a loss but, when its pelt and offal value is taken into consideration, together with the wholesale price of dressed lamb, we are not sure that actual losses have been sustained. In fact, we believe our lambs have been marketed at a good profit to the packers. The prices obtained for fed lambs up until January 1st have been such as to bring

heavy losses to our feeders which must, in turn, be reflected in the price paid for feeder lambs this year.

This committee is not in a position to definitely state the cause for low lamb prices during 1936 but we respectfully direct the attention of our officers to this situation and suggest that, if the same condition obtains in 1937, they institute an investigation which will unfold all the facts responsible for the situation.

We are very glad to note that, during the past few years, some of our packers have displayed considerable genius in packing and preparing lamb carcasses for market. Some of these packages are put up in such an attractive manner that they must result in increased sales at better prices.

It was recommended that the officers of the association investigate the question of compulsory government grading of lamb carcasses. The convention also renewed its position of opposition to "further redistribution of grazing privileges in Idaho forests in view of the fact that its forests are fully occupied and the outfits using them have been reduced to a point which makes profitable operation somewhat doubtful. It was recommended when non-use permits are granted, the range involved should not be grazed without the approval of the local advisory board. It was asked that forest supervisors maintain closer contact with such boards.

In connection with the Taylor Grazing Act, assurance was given that wool growers would give support and cooperation as to the law itself. The convention said: "We believe that the law itself is couched in such confusing phraseology that even those who are attempting to administer it are not clear as to its exact meaning." It was also asserted that the law plainly contemplated that dominant consideration should be given to priority in the consideration of applications for grazing licenses or permits. A strong objection was voiced against the policy of basing public domain permits solely on lands owned by applicants. Arrangement was asked for the sale of isolated tracts partly surrounded by owned lands located within the exterior boundaries of the grazing district. Cancellation of

grazing fees until term permits have been issued was also asked for.

In the report of the committee on transportation, vigorous opposition toward the Pettengill Bill was expressed. The opening of all gateways for interchange of freight shipments between different lines was advocated.

The proposed increase for yardage on sheep at the Chicago stockyards was disapproved. Through a report of the committee on wool marketing, it was insisted that full and complete hearings be had by the U. S. Senate Committee on Investigation of Wool Marketing in advance of the framing of any proposed remedial legislation. The work of Associated Wool Industries was endorsed and growers were urged to continue to contribute to its support.

It was also asked that both the Forest Service and the Division of Grazing provide ways and means to eradicate predatory animals, also that the State of Idaho increase its appropriations to the game department for use in combating predatory animals. An increase of from five mills to ten mills in the sheep tax was advocated to provide larger funds for the State Predatory Animal Board.

The 12th annual report on cost of production summarized 1935 figures on a large number of sheep. It was shown that the average net profit per ewe in that year was 11 cents. This was computed without any credit for investment in sheep, range, ranches or equipment, or for time of the operators. A preliminary report on 1936 operations indicated a net profit of 86 cents per head in early lambing flocks. The average weight of 1936 lambs, however, was over two pounds below that of the previous year.

Interesting subjects discussed during the course of the program included livestock prospects for the next few years by John T. Caine, III; factors in range management by R. H. Rutledge; progress of transportation by H. J. Plumbhof.

Albert M. Day of the U. S. Biological Survey made interesting statements regarding recent discoveries in the use of poison for coyotes. It has been found

that while different orders or shipments of strychnine have the same composition, yet, there may be a great variation in their effectiveness. The Bureau's laboratories have been equipped to make an actual test of all lots of poison distributed for use by predatory animal

hunters. A material improvement has also been made in the style of traps in use. Mr. Day stated that the big game program of his bureau gives no cause for alarm on the part of livestock raisers.

## Utah

Salt Lake City—January 19-20

**D**ESPITE the heavy snowstorms and the extreme cold, there was a very satisfactory attendance at the Utah wool growers' convention held in the Hotel Utah at Salt Lake City on January 19 and 20.

On the morning of the first day President Jorgensen gave his annual address. He spoke of the decline of the sheep population in the United States and the great extent to which the sheepman is taxed. The work being done to promote lamb consumption—Utah Lamb Week; the National Mid-winter Lamb Sale and the work of the National Live Stock and Meat Board—was also brought out by Mr. Jorgensen. He mentioned in particular the danger of the foot-and-mouth disease being brought into the United States if livestock from countries where they do not have the same high standard of sanitation that we have are allowed to enter here. He asked that the convention go on record as against the lifting of any embargo on livestock from these countries.

He also stated that he was opposed to benefit payments to the sheepmen, but that he was in favor of the government going out on public lands to make all the improvements possible. He said, "Whatever is to be spent on soil conservation should be placed on the land itself and not handed out in benefit payments."

C. B. Denman, president of the National Livestock Marketing Association, talked on the policies and legislation affecting marketing. He said: "If the meat and animal products imported into the United States were raised in our own country, it would take 25 million acres and displace a great amount

of unemployment. If we are going to have trade treaties, quotas should be given at specified times, and not have it all come in one day and break the market." Mr. Denman said that a rise in prices must come before they let anything else come in. "Farmer-owned and controlled marketing associations can put the farmers in a position to know their markets and the conditions prevailing in them, and thereby largely control their own prices," he told the convention. "I do not think inefficiency should be rewarded at any time, but rather should be penalized, which would be really a reward for efficiency."

The morning session closed with the presentation of Secretary Hooper's report. The afternoon was devoted to committee sessions.

The Wednesday morning session was opened with a talk by Secretary F. R. Marshall of the National Wool Growers Association, entitled, "Where Do We Go From Here in the Sheep Business," in which he analyzed wool prices, possible tariff changes and the Argentine Sanitary Convention.

R. H. Rutledge, district forester from Ogden, Utah, spoke on the soil conservation and domestic allotment program for 1937. He gave information on how the sheepmen might improve their range conditions.

R. W. Doe of Oakland, California, vice president of Safeway Stores, talked at some length on the National Mid-Winter Lamb Sale. He spoke of the many ways in which the chain stores are able to stimulate the

sale of lamb, and also the speed with which this work can be put into effect.

Speakers for the afternoon were President Elmer G. Peterson of the Utah State Agricultural College, Manager C. J. Fawcett of the National Wool Marketing Corporation of Boston, and Otto Stabell, representative of the Botany Worsted Mills of Passaic, New Jersey.

Mr. Peterson spoke on cooperatives in Europe and stressed the great need of the farmer to own his own land. He spoke of the great advantage of the cooperative spirit among agricultural men.

Mr. Fawcett pointed out that the stage is all set for a substantial rise in wool values because we are at least a year behind in production. In two years we used one billion, two hundred million pounds of wool, or the equivalent of three years of domestic production. He stated that the strength of the wool market is world-wide, also that Japan is using a much larger supply of Australian wool, which will largely absorb Australian competition with domestic production.

Official resolutions and statements adopted by the convention included:

1. Opposition to so-called reciprocal trade agreements that pretend to increase our foreign trade, but result in injuring our domestic production and in bringing ruin to our own producers. The repeal of the law that permits such agreements without approval by Congress was urged.

2. Opposition to the Argentine Sanitary Convention was voiced as follows: "The ravages of outbreaks of the terrible foot-and-mouth disease that cost this country hundreds of millions of dollars and the destruction of millions of our meat animals, is too fresh in our memory to sanction a relaxation of the embargo on meat and meat animals from countries where this dread disease exists. Therefore, we oppose with all our power the ratification of the proposed Argentine Sanitary Convention. To let down the bars in that respect will not only endanger our entire livestock industry, but it may infest our wild game and make eradication of the disease almost impossible. We therefore ask our legislature to memorialize Congress to that effect."

3. "We request that Congress amend Section 15 (5) of the Interstate Commerce Act, so that charges for shipment of ordinary livestock destined to or received at public stockyards shall include all necessary service in unloading at public stockyards of

inbound shipments into suitable pens, and receipt and loading at such yards of outbound shipments without extra charge therefor to the shipper, consignee or owner, regardless of whether the unloading and re-loading enroute is at the 'request' of the shipper, consignee or owner."

4. Establishment of standards for fabrics and provision for labeling of fabrics and garments so that the purchaser will be fully advised regarding the presence of any adulterants or substitutions in the materials sold as being wholly or partly composed of wool were asked for.

5. We believe "that considerable work can be done by the Department of Agriculture in determining better methods for establishing wool shrinkages, and in further research work in the usage of wool. We therefore recommend that this association ask our Senators and Congressmen to secure an appropriation for wool work by the U. S. Department of Agriculture of not less than \$100,000 annually."

6. It was voted that "new applicants for forest grazing permits should obtain such only through purchase of permitted livestock or recognized dependent and commensurate property." Reductions for range protection should provide for restoration of numbers under reduced permits when the

forage is restored. Reductions on transferred permits were opposed. Objections to "issuance of such documents as Senate Document 199 and the release of December 8, 1936, 'Suggested Service-Wide Objectives and Policy Developed as a Result of the Distribution Survey.'"

8. Preference in granting Taylor permits was asked for applicants having a year round set-up, including forest permits. Recognition of ownership of range lands as superior to only waterholes was called for. Proper seasonal use of the public domain by both cattle and sheep was demanded.

9. Protest against amalgamation of the Division of Grazing and the Grazing Branch of the U. S. Forest Service.

10. Recommendation of Congressional action to afford legal status of grazing permits on government lands.

11. The Pettengill bill was opposed and the state legislature was requested to memorialize Congress in opposition to that measure.

The present officers of the association were unanimously elected for another year. They are: S. M. Jorgensen, president, W. D. Candland, vice president, and Jas. A. Hooper, secretary.

## Business Meeting of New Mexico Association

**T**HE New Mexico Wool Growers Association held no regular convention this year but met in a business session at the close of the final meeting of the National Wool Growers Association at Albuquerque on January 28.

At that time all the officers were re-elected: F. W. Lee as president; Ortiz y Pino as vice president and Miss Isabel Benson as secretary. The meeting adopted resolutions which:

1. Authorized appointment of a committee of three to study the public land problems of the state, alone or in cooperation with other groups.

2. Opposed the setting aside or sale of state land to the government for enlargement of Indian Reservations or allotment, without approval of the New Mexico legislature.

3. Authorized naming committee of three to confer with New Mexico Cattle Growers Association on proposal to combine sheep and cattle sanitary boards.

4. Commended F. R. Carpenter and urged his reappointment as Federal Director of Grazing.

5. Recommended deferring action on federal grading of meats until more information is obtained.

6. Opposed reciprocal trade agreements.

7. Condemned Argentine Sanitary Convention.

8. Endorsed the principles of soil conservation, and authorized president to name committee to cooperate with Soil Conservation Service.

9. Approved expenditure of funds to advertise lamb.

10. Opposed further reductions in authorized permits and recommended in cases where permittee is removed for range rehabilitation, that his permit be renewed when range again is ready for use.

11. Approved state coyote and bobcat bounty bill; suggesting bounties be paid from general funds with annual appropriation of \$60,000.

The next regular annual convention of the New Mexico Association will be held at Santa Fe in 1938.



# With the Women's Auxiliaries

## Annual Meeting of the National Auxiliary

THE Eighth Annual Convention of the Women's Auxiliary to the National Wool Growers Association was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, January 26-27-28, 1937.

Mrs. J. R. Eliason, president, presided at all meetings. The following delegates were present: Mrs. J. G. Barratt of Oregon; Mrs. Jack Edwards and Mrs. J. C. Fowler of Idaho; Mrs. Edmund Meyer and Mrs. R. A. Jackson of Washington; and Mrs. Sylvester Broadbent and Mrs. M. A. Smith of Utah.

The meetings were interesting and well attended by the ladies visiting the convention, as well as the ladies of Albuquerque.

Community singing was led by Mrs. Parley A. Dansie and a duet—"Day Follows Night," written by the late Anthony C. Lund of Utah—was sung by Mrs. Eliason and Mrs. Dansie, accompanied by Mrs. Nell Taylor, Albuquerque.

Minutes of the last convention, held in Salt Lake City, Utah, were read for reference.

Reports of the executive officers, state presidents and chairwomen of committees were read and given to the secretary for filing.

Mrs. Eliason reported organizing Wyoming and reorganizing Colorado since the last convention.

She then gave her address of greetings to all members of the organization. In part, President Eliason said:

### The President's Talk

"May I at this time give a short report of the activities of your president during the past two years? The association with the executive group, the friendships formed in the different state and local organizations could not be measured. I appreciate the confidence you gave, in electing me as your president two years ago, and may



MRS. J. R. ELIASON  
Outgoing President of the National Auxiliary

I say your loyal support in the requests made of you will long be remembered.

"Acting for your club, your president has during the past year attended three state conventions. On July 30, 1936, at the request of Mr. Cooper, president of the Wyoming Wool Growers Association, I attended the Wyoming state convention and assisted in perfecting a state auxiliary there. This convention was held in Sheridan, Wyoming. On July 25, 1936, I attended the Colorado wool growers' convention at Glenwood Springs, Colorado, and on January 19, 1937, I represented the National Auxiliary at the annual meeting of the Women's Auxiliary to the Utah Wool Growers Association.

"By correspondence, I have kept in close contact with the promotion program of the Associated Wool Industries that materials might be sent to all officers and committee members. I also arranged for a new committee to act as a membership committee, with Mrs. Ira Staggs as chairwoman.

"I appreciate the work of our officers, their willingness to serve and do their

job well: Our first vice president, Mrs. Oliver, with her cooperative spirit, her ability to weigh the problems which come to the officers for consideration; Mrs. Contor, second vice president, who accepted the responsibility of the finance committee, also the duties of chairwoman of credentials committee; Mrs. Dansie, for her cheerfulness, also who at all times has kept an accurate account of the proceedings of our meetings, and responded readily in writing letters when called upon.

"Another very important responsibility has been carried on very efficiently during the past two years by our very reserved and gifted member, Mrs. Ella Livingston, our press correspondent. Her duty has been to keep the page in the National Wool Grower filled with the activities of the organized groups, and much credit is due her for its success.

"When I think of parliamentary procedure, I cannot help but express my thanks to Mrs. E. E. Corfman of Salt Lake City, Utah, who has been a true and affable assistant in placing this organization on a higher plane. It is also most fitting to express my appreciation to Mrs. David Smith, our treasurer, for her efficiency in keeping the funds of the club with accuracy and the books at any time ready for inspection.

"May I express my thanks for all committees working for the advancement of club activities, and may we use this motto during the coming two years: 'Serve and Serve More'."

An address on woolen fabrics was given by Otto Stabell, Botany Worsted Mills, Passaic, New Jersey.

### New Officers

The following executive officers were then elected for the ensuing term: Mrs. W. P. Mahoney, Heppner, Oregon, president; Mrs. Leon Contor, Idaho Falls, Idaho, first vice president; Mrs. David Smith, Salt Lake City, Utah, second vice president; Mrs. Fred

Wideman, Baker City, Oregon, secretary; Mrs. W. A. Roberts, Yakima, Washington, treasurer.

All other officers and chairwomen of committees are to be appointed by the new president, Mrs. Mahoney of Oregon, excepting the board members, of which the state presidents and past presidents are members.

On the eve of January 26 all members of the wool growers' association were entertained at a dance at the Elk's Club where special Indian dances were featured by Blue Sky Eagle. At noon, January 27, all were entertained at a lamb barbecue at the Masonic Temple.

Wednesday afternoon the ladies of the Chamber of Commerce, with Mrs. Frank Hubbell, chairwoman, and the following ladies assisting: Mrs. August Seis, vice chairwoman; Mrs. Franklin Bond, Mrs. Manuel B. Otero, Mrs. E. L. Moulton, Mrs. Fred Huning, Mrs. Reyes Gonzales, Mrs. George E. Breece, Mrs. Walter McConnell, Mrs. L. E. McArthur, Mrs. Leopold Meyer, and Mrs. Floyd W. Lee, escorted the ladies on a drive out to Isleta Indian Village. On the way back they were entertained at a delightful tea at the Tapia del Camino Real, the home of Col. and Mrs. George E. Breece. Mrs. Floyd W. Lee, Mrs. Roscoe C. Rich, Mrs. J. R. Eliason, Mrs. Parley A. Dansie, Mrs. George E. Breece and Mrs. Frank Hubbell received the guests—of some one hundred in number.

January 28 a luncheon was sponsored by the Albuquerque ladies, honoring the convention guests at the Villa de Romero in Old Albuquerque, where the all-wool quilt was raffled and won by an Albuquerque resident.

Resolutions adopted by the auxiliary were as follows:

#### Resolutions

1. Whereas, there is so much misrepresentation of fabrics, and mislabeling of goods,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Women's Auxiliary to the National Wool Growers Association heartily endorse a truth-in-fabrics bill.

2. Whereas, the Associated Wool Industries has been appointed our wool promotion agent,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Women's Auxiliary to the National Wool Growers Association is in favor of the wool producer paying ten cents per bag on marketed wool to be used for advertising purposes.

The outgoing executive officers wish to extend their sincerest greetings and best wishes for a happy and successful term of office for the following two years to the new officers.

Mrs. Parley A. Dansie,  
(Outgoing) Secretary

### Meeting of the Utah Auxiliary

THE annual convention of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Utah Wool Growers Association was held in Salt Lake City on January 19 and 20. For the opening session the ladies met with the men's organization at the Hotel Utah.

At 12:30 p. m. the state executive officers entertained the presidents of the visiting chapters at luncheon in the coffee shop of the Hotel Utah.

At 2:30 p. m. the convention reconvened in the Jade Room of the Hotel Utah, with Mrs. Sylvester Broadbent presiding. There was a good attendance, considering the extreme winter weather. Mrs. O. R. Ivory read the club collect followed by the reciting of the Lord's Prayer. Mrs. David Smith, chairwoman of the program committee, presented the following numbers: Vocal solo by Mrs. Pearl Kimball Davis, accompanied by Melvin R. Savage; a talk on wool, its values and uses, by Mrs. Lutie H. Fryer of Home Economics Department, University of Utah, and talk by our National President, Mrs. J. R. Eliason. Reports were given of the past year's work by Mrs. Henry Moss, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. H. H. Stevens, vice president; Mrs. Alex Crystal, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Parley A. Dansie, historian; Mrs. I. H. Jacob, treasurer of Salt Lake Auxiliary; and Mrs. Briant Stringham, president of the Ashley Auxiliary in Uintah Coun-

ty. A beautiful quilt was on display which was to be raffled at the National Convention being held at Albuquerque, New Mexico, the latter part of the month.

The executive meeting of the auxiliary was held on Wednesday, January 20, at 10:30 a. m. in the Pioneer Room of Hotel Utah, with Mrs. Sylvester Broadbent presiding, and was in the form of a round-table discussion. A number of important problems were considered. There were twelve present. A report of a new organization was given—the Ashley Wool Growers Auxiliary of Uintah County, with officers as follows: President, Mrs. Briant Stringham; vice president, Mrs. John Siddoway; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Adair Tyzack. We are happy to welcome this new group. Also the American Fork Auxiliary has reorganized as follows: President, Mrs. Mark Coddington; first vice president, Mrs. Milton Adamson; second vice president, Mrs. Bert Adamson; secretary, Mrs. Ralph Roberts; treasurer, Mrs. Don Berg, and corresponding secretary, Mrs. Emery Nichols.

At 12:30 p. m. the Chamber of Commerce, through Mrs. Winifred P. Ralls, entertained the auxiliaries and visiting ladies at a lovely luncheon. Favors were beautiful corsages for each lady. During the luncheon a short program was given by the Salt Lake Chapter.

In the contest between the lovely wool displays, the first prize was awarded to the Ashley Wool Growers Auxiliary, and the second prize to the Salt Lake City Chapter. The prize for guessing the weight of the cellophane bag of wool was won by Mr. C. J. Fawcett, manager of the National Wool Marketing Corporation, Boston, Massachusetts. It was a beautiful wool scarf made by the Botany Worsted Mills.

Mrs. Henry Moss, Secretary

# The Secretary's Report

(Continued from page 26)

## Western Dressed Lamb Carcasses at Three Eastern Cities

	1936	
	August	November
<b>NEW YORK:</b>		
Western dressed .....	138,029	179,040
Local slaughter .....	238,962	246,388
<b>BOSTON:</b>		
Western dressed .....	54,326	49,280
Local slaughter .....		
<b>PHILADELPHIA:</b>		
Western dressed .....	49,175	67,330
Local slaughter .....	19,418	16,950
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>499,910</b>	<b>558,988</b>

In the two months shown in the table, 36 per cent of the supply of lambs slaughtered under federal inspection was consumed in, or distributed from, New York, Boston, and Philadelphia which have a combined population of 9.6 million. The apparent per capita consumption of lamb in August, 1936, was 2.3 pounds. For the same month the national average was .4 pounds, and for August, 1935, it was .5 pounds. The national average for 1935 was 5.49 pounds, and in 1931, 7.1 pounds.

The heavy lamb consumption in 1931 was, of course, in main part due to the fact that there was a heavy production and slaughter in that year. It was in 1931 that the most work was done on our association's "Eat More Lamb" campaign that had been started the previous year. About \$30,000 was spent in 1931 in direct efforts to increase lamb consumption in cities of the Middle West and on organization work. Packers' representatives were outspoken in their praise of this work, and that of the National Live Stock and Meat Board. It was asserted that a large number of new consumer-customers for lamb had resulted in its being carried in numerous shops that previously had handled no lamb.

Apparently that new demand of five years ago has been lost. The industry appears to be where it was in 1930, when a monthly slaughter of more than one and a half million head demoralizes the dressed trade, reduces live prices,—and the producer or feeder stands the effects.

Undoubtedly more educational work is needed to secure adequate outlet for future lamb supplies. Four large packer concerns which handle 85 per cent of the lamb business appear to follow the line of least resistance and unload the whole supply on the old lamb consuming centers to be sold at bargain-counter prices.

I recommend that the executive committee consider a renewal of the "Eat More Lamb" work that was abandoned because of shortage of association funds in the early years of the depression.

Arrangements have been made for inauguration of the National Mid-Winter Lamb Sale on January 21, 1937. The cooperation of 37,000 retail stores has been assured by the National Association of Food Chains. The three weeks' special program for increasing lamb sales, and on the basis of full going prices, is certain to have a good effect. The results should continue for several months. This National Mid-Winter Sale must necessarily rely upon increased sales in present consuming centers. The job of creating new consumer-customers in non-lamb consuming towns will still remain to be done if a regular outlet is to be found for future supplies.

## GOVERNMENT LAMB GRADING

During the year there was an increased interest in the plan of compulsory grading and stamping of carcasses of all classes of livestock. The work would be done by government employees. A bill was introduced in Congress providing for application of the plan to all beef moving in interstate commerce.

Proponents of government grading and stamping claim that stamping of carcasses to show grade would assist consumers who desire to buy high-quality meats, and at the same time protect those who wish to buy cheaper meats from having to pay the prices of the higher grades. There is real doubt as to whether the latter objective actually would result. Others argue that official stamping of the cheaper meats as "common" or "inferior" would curtail their sale and create resentment among those who now purchase cuts from carcasses of the lower grades.

In recent years there has been a steady growth in the demand for government graded beef and lamb. This has come chiefly from buyers for hotels, institutions and government departments. Packers selling to those desiring meats stamped for grade can secure services of official graders.

In addition, packers have greatly increased the use of their own private stamps. In 1936, packers placed their own stamps on 100 million pounds of first-quality beef, 300 million pounds of second grade, and 500 million pounds of third-grade beef. It is questionable whether the packer grading for best quality is as uniform from month to month as is the government grade. More important is the fact that none of the private grade names used by packers to designate quality of meat carry any real meaning except to the very few consumer-buyers who know the various names employed by each of the packers for various qualities of meat. Except for such advertised and low volume lines as "Premium" or "Star," the average consumer can secure little if any guidance from the stamping to show packer grading. The buyers for retail shops are, of course, better posted than consumers and may keep track of the terminology of the various packers. The names of government grades are very clear and readily convey an idea of the quality represented. As referred to, however, there is doubt as to the advisability of stamping the lower qualities of meat for any section or trade.



## FREIGHT RATES

During the year there were no major cases involving basic rates for general application to the shipment of sheep, lambs or wool. There were, however, a number of minor cases which involved some expense and considerable trouble in preparation and following to a conclusion. These were chiefly in connection with changes in tariff items proposed by carriers or groups of carriers in connection with the furnishing of cars, loading and unloading, non-application of 85 per cent feeder rates, etc.

For the first time, the association had the benefit of qualified service in checking proposed changes in tariff items and charges in advance of the date that they were to become effective. Through cooperation with the American National Live Stock Association, our association has had this service performed by Mr. Charles E. Blaine. Mr. Blaine has also represented the association in all matters in which formal procedure before the Interstate Commerce Commission became necessary.

The expense in connection with traffic service has been higher than for a number of years, but is inconsequential in comparison with the amount of increased charges that would be paid by shippers if this service were not available. Heretofore, many such tariff changes were unnoticed until too late for objections to be made. If their correction was attempted, formal complaint, hearings, briefs and arguments were necessary. This year a number of the proposed increases in charges have been prevented from coming into effect.

I, therefore, recommend a provision in the 1937 budget for the continuation of this tariff-checking service and for such expense as may become necessary in the prosecution of cases that are required to go through formal procedure before the I.C.C.

The following excerpts are from the annual report submitted by Mr. Blaine on December 15, 1936:

On January 1, 1936 there were pending before the I.C.C., five formal cases originally filed by other parties and in which this association, jointly with the American National Live Stock Association, was participating. Two of these cases have been finally disposed of by the Commission, and in our favor.

During the year, three additional formal cases were inaugurated upon petitions filed by us, likewise in cooperation with the American National Live Stock Association, in which the Commission was asked to suspend certain tariff provisions proposed to be placed in effect. Of this latter group, two have been decided in our favor, and a satisfactory decision on the third is expected soon.

### Cases Disposed of

#### I. & S. Docket 4120, Loading and Unloading Charges on Livestock

By schedules, Supplement 2 to Agent Toll's I.C.C. 1352, filed to become effective August 1, 1935, the railroads proposed on transcontinental traffic to restrict the number of public stock yards within the United States from 92 to 46, and within the Western District from 42 to 24, at which the charges for unloading and loading livestock would be absorbed, or at which these services would be performed without additional charge therefor by the carriers. As the proposed schedules were clearly in contravention of section 15(5) of the Interstate Commerce Act, we filed

joint petition with the Commission for suspension thereof. Said petition was granted. Hearing was had and briefs filed. The Commission in its decision on January 9, 1936, as reported 213 I.C.C. 528, found the suspended schedules not justified and ordered their cancellation and the proceeding discontinued.

Had the above proposed schedules been allowed to become effective, shippers would have been required to pay the regular rates for fat livestock on a considerable volume of livestock that is entitled to move on the 85 per cent or feeder rates as prescribed by the Interstate Commerce Commission in the general cases decided on June 8, 1931, and January 10, 1933 (I.C.C. 17,000, Part 9).

#### I. & S. Docket 4207, Single in Lieu of Double-Deck Cars on Livestock

By schedules filed to become effective June 1, 1936, and later, the railroads proposed a revision of the existing tariff provisions applying throughout the entire Western District relating to the substitution, at carriers' option, of single-deck cars in lieu of double-deck cars ordered by a shipper for the loading of livestock.

As the present rules were prescribed by the Commission in LIVESTOCK--WESTERN DISTRICT RATES, 176 I.C.C. 1, at page 95, we, jointly with other livestock producers, filed petition with the Commission for suspension of the proposed schedules. Said petition was granted. Hearing was had and briefs filed. The Commission in its decision of October 22, 1936, found not justified the suspended schedules and ordered their cancellation and the proceeding discontinued without prejudice to the filing of new schedules in conformity with the views expressed in the decision.

#### I. & S. Docket 4226, Feeder Livestock in Mountain-Pacific Territory

By numerous schedules filed to become effective July 20, 1936, the railroads proposed to restrict the application of the 85 per cent basis of rates on stocker and feeder livestock throughout the entire Mountain-Pacific territory to instances in which there is a subsequent movement by rail of the same stock. As such schedules, if permitted to become effective, would have necessitated the livestock producers' paying the fat livestock rates for the transportation of stocker and feeder livestock in instances where there is no subsequent rail movement, we, in conjunction with other livestock producers, filed joint petition with the Commission for suspension of the proposed schedules. The petition was granted. Thereafter, as is our invariable practice, we asked the railroads to withdraw the suspended schedules so as to avoid further expense to all concerned. The railroads acquiesced in our request and the schedules have been withdrawn. However, the railroads have informed us that as soon as their legal departments can perfect a new item to the same effect which will stand up before the Commission and the courts, they again intend to thus attempt to restrict the rates on stocker and feeder livestock.

#### I. & S. Docket 4271, Feed and Service Charges at Pacific Coast Stockyards

By schedules filed to become effective November 9, 1936, the railroads in North Pacific Coast Tariff Bureau territory proposed to eliminate the words, "the carriers furnishing the feed and performing the service," from the present rules governing feed and service charges at railroad-operated stockyards.

As the elimination of such language would compel the shippers to pay charges for unloading, reloading and for feeding and watering livestock when stopped in transit for feed, water, and rest, or for other purposes, even though the railroads did not perform such services, but either the shippers or their duly authorized agents performed all of such services, we, jointly with other livestock producers, filed petition with the Commission for suspension of the proposed schedules. The petition was granted. We requested the railroads to withdraw the suspended schedules. However, they refused to take such action. Consequently, hearing was held at Denver, Colorado, December 5, 1936. Upon cross-examination the railroads' witness admitted that the proposed

schedules would, if permitted to become effective, result in increased charges on livestock in that they would enable and require the railroads to collect charges for the services above named whether such services were performed by them or by the shippers. Therefore, counsel for the railroads asked that the Commission enter an order finding the suspended schedules not justified and dismiss the proceeding without prejudice to the railroads publishing a rule to the effect that where no services are performed by the railroads or their duly authorized agents, that the railroads will not make any charge. Thus, the decision of the Commission, when rendered, in this proceeding will likewise be in our favor.

### Cases Still Pending

Among the cases still undecided is a group of matters collectively referred to as Eastern Livestock Cases 1935. These cases were heard and handled simultaneously, and the National Wool Growers Association participated in some of them as an intervenor. This was done for the purpose of avoiding decisions which might react injuriously upon livestock shippers.

It has been necessary to have representation in another group of cases based on complaints filed by stockyard interests at Chicago, Louisville and Nashville. Complainants in these cases protested the granting of 85 per cent rates on feeder livestock to country points without allowing the same rate into public markets represented by them. Their complaint was drawn on the basis of section 3 of the Interstate Commerce Act and might, therefore, have been terminated by requiring payment of the full 100 per cent rates to all points. It was to guard the interests of the livestock shippers by preventing such a result that we participated in these cases.

### Chicago Live Stock Exchange v. Atchison, T. & S. F. Ry. Co., et al., No. 24847

In this proceeding the Union Stock Yards at Chicago have assailed the switching charge of \$2.70 per car which applies on livestock moved to or from those yards in addition to the line-haul rates prescribed by the Commission in the WESTERN LIVESTOCK case, *supra*. In its original decision, 197 I.C.C. 463, the Commission found the charge not unreasonable and dismissed the complaint. Following the decision of the Supreme Court in the OMAHA PACKING CO. case, complainants petitioned the Commission for rehearing in the instant proceeding. The Commission granted the petition and assigned the matter for further hearing at Chicago, September 25, 1935. We, jointly with other livestock producers, intervened at the hearing in support of the complaints. Briefs were filed January 15, 1936. The Examiner rendered his report in May, 1936, in which he recommended, in substance, that the switching charge of \$2.70 should be found unreasonable, unduly prejudicial and in violation of section 15(5) of the Act. The railroads filed vigorous exceptions thereto and the case was orally argued before the Commission October 7, 1936. The Commission has not as yet rendered its final decision.

### Next Year's Work

From the checking it will be noted that practically all of our work last year was defensive in character. There are numerous matters which should receive the early attention of livestock producers in order to protect and safeguard their interests.

As an example of class of cases upon which we cannot safely continue to act only on the defensive, reference is made to a matter pending before the Central Freight Association known to the railroads as Docket 47645. It is proposed to charge full fat live stock rates on shipments of stocker or feeder animals, and to refund the extra 15 per cent already collected only upon the claims presented by shippers within 35 days and showing proof that the stock concerned was not used for slaughter purposes.

It is also understood that carriers in Mountain-Pacific territory intend to ask authority to charge full rates on stock now moving on feeder rates unless it can be shown that there was a

further rail movement of the same stock subsequent to its delivery as feeder stock.

Livestock producers should support the effort to be made in the coming session of Congress for the amendment of section 15(4) of the Interstate Commerce Act. This amendment would have the effect of authorizing the I.C.C. to prescribe through rates and joint rates, even to the extent of short-hauling some railroads, when such action was found to be in the public interest.

### FOREST GRAZING

The ten-year grazing permits, first authorized in 1924, expired in 1934. In 1935 the Forest Service declined to renew term-permits. This was supposedly because of the necessity of awaiting further development of the administration of the Taylor Grazing Act relating to the public domain. It seemed also to have been expected that some degree of valuable coordination between the two grazing administrations would be developed.

In February, 1936, committees representing the American National Live Stock Association and the National Wool Growers Association held extended discussions with the Forest Service officials at Washington. It was finally announced by the officials that term-permits to expire in 1945 would be issued in 1936, except in a few areas in which the large demand for redistribution of the permits made necessary further study and investigation.

During the summer of last year, special economic studies were completed in six western areas. These studies related chiefly to the economics of the distribution of the grazing privileges. In general, they have shown a very high rate of turnover in permits issued to individuals whose major interest is farming and who used forest lands for the grazing of livestock as a secondary or supplementary enterprise.

Further conference was held at Denver on December 18 and 19, 1936, with Forest Service officials by representatives of the two national organizations. The problem of the distribution of grazing privileges and future reductions of established permits was again considered exhaustively, but no further official announcement has yet been made as to future policies.

### PUBLIC DOMAIN GRAZING

Considerable progress was made during 1936 in the administration of the Taylor Grazing Act. A conference of representatives of district boards was held on December 9, 10, and 11, 1936, at Salt Lake City. Only annual licenses have been issued as yet. The conference referred to voted in favor of the issuance of term-permits for 75 per cent of the stock to be grazed by recognized applicants, the remainder to be under temporary license "until such time as the range survey program is completed."

At the same time, representatives of licensees voted to have priority standards established by the boards of the various districts instead of having a single rule or standard of priority applied in all districts. The question of priority is of great importance to many stock-raisers in the West.



An applicant in a Colorado district, who was refused a license under the two-year rule established in his district, has carried an appeal to the Secretary of the Interior, and it is probable that the case will go to the courts for determination of the meaning of section 3 of the act.

The same conference asked for amendments to the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934 to provide (1) legal recognition of local advisory boards, (2) expenditure by district boards, within the districts, of 50 per cent of the fees collected from licensees, and (3) a term of four years for the Director of Grazing. In the amendments to the Taylor Grazing Act passed during the closing hours of the 74th Congress, it was provided that the President shall have power, with the advice and consent of the Senate, to select a Director of Grazing. The term of office for the Director was not specified.

Others of the 1936 amendments to the Act of 1934 increased to 142 million acres the total area of public domain lands that may be placed in grazing districts; provided for classification of lands that may be homesteaded, for easier exchange of lands with states, and for disposition of proceeds of leases; and classified preference status for leasing of occupants of lands adjacent to isolated tracts.

Some further amendments to the act seem to be desirable. It may be advisable, however, to await further developments in administrative procedure and the possible decisions of the courts as to administrative acts or interpretation of the present law.

### FABRIC LABELING

No action was taken by the 74th Congress on the Capper bill, the provisions of which called for general labeling of woolen fabrics to show the presence of fibers other than wool, or of reworked wool.

In December, 1935, the Bureau of Standards of the Department of Commerce published a set of regulations entitled "Commercial Standards for Wool and Part-Wool Fabrics." It was understood that these proposed standards were approved by a large majority of the manufacturers of woolen goods.

The operation of the standards contemplated the setting up of a committee representing the various interests. I was named to represent the National Wool Growers Association and also the American Farm Bureau Federation in the work of that committee.

The proposed standards have not yet been put into effect.

The main result of the employment of the proposed standards, it was felt, was likely to be too small to justify discontinuance of other lines of effort to make available to the purchasing public reasonably accurate knowledge as to the true content of fabrics sold under the name of wool. Under the standards, all labeling would be permissive. Penalties could be applied only in cases in which it might be shown that mislabeling had been done. Manufacturers of any form of adulterated or inferior products

would be exempt from the plan so long as they used none of the forms of labels which were proposed to be employed.

As the representative of the wool growers, I also felt compelled to protest against official recognition and approval of such terms as "pure wool," "all wool," etc. I insisted that under that arrangement it would be possible legally to apply the best sounding names that could be used in connection with cloth or garments to fabrics that might contain the maximum amount of the most inferior types of reworked wool. No counter-plan has as yet been offered to remove this objection. It is also understood that some concerns in the manufacturing industry have objected to the standards on other grounds.

During the year there was a very large increase in the extent of the use of rayon and cotton in fabrics supposedly composed chiefly of wool. There has been considerable complaining from a few of the higher-class manufacturers on the grounds that these mixed fabrics are going into consumption under the guise of being made wholly of wool. Efforts are being made to get typical cases of such adulteration and misrepresentation before the Federal Trade Commission. When the full facts can be established, there is no doubt that that Commission will want the concerns doing this misrepresentation to change their practices. These "cease-and-desist" orders of the Federal Trade Commission do not carry any penalty, but when they are not observed, the Commission commonly takes further procedure against such parties and usually secures conviction with penalty.

There is a growing demand for federal legislation requiring compulsory labeling of fabrics sold as being made of wool, to reveal the content of rayon or cotton. Possibly some legislation of this kind can be secured within the next one or two years. No doubt it could readily be obtained if supported by a considerable part of the manufacturers.

In connection with legislation for labeling to show content of reworked wool fiber, the same difficulties of accurate detection as have been argued in previous years still exist. Arbitrary methods for determining the presence of shoddy are being rapidly improved, though less progress has been made in developing a method for accurate determination of the weight of reworked fibers in a fabric.

### PROMOTION OF WOOL

Associated Wool Industries, organized in 1935, is still doing excellent work. While no doubt the increased wool consumption reported for 1935 and 1936 would have come about in any event, yet there is no doubt that the actual demand has been materially increased as a result of the activities of Associated Wool Industries. The greatest service of this organization lies in the future. It should receive still larger support from the wool growers, and it is hoped that manufacturers and trade interests will soon be ready to support a larger and firmer program.



The contributions of wool growers to the fund in 1936, through the collection of 10 cents per bag, totaled between 15 and 20 thousand dollars. A larger amount should be secured in 1937.

As secretary of the National Wool Growers Association, I have had a place as a director of Associated Wool Industries. Unfortunately, it has been impossible to reach New York to attend any of the directors' meetings. I have recommended the selection of a grower-representative who is nearer to New York and can follow more closely the details of the financial and other affairs of Associated Wool Industries.

### WOOL MARKETING

There has been no active work on the part of the association during the year on the question of wool marketing. It had been expected that the report of the special Senate committee appointed to investigate wool marketing affairs would be available and afford a full statement of facts regarding practices in wool handling. This impartial report of facts, we felt, would show the true situation regarding the handling of consigned wool at the larger markets. Unfortunately, there has been a considerable delay in the completion of the investigation by the Senate committee, and no statement of the facts or conditions is as yet available. When such showing can be published and studied, it will show what changes, if any, should be brought about, and what legislative or other type of action is desirable.

The importance of enabling each grower to know the clean yield of his clip before selling is becoming more and more apparent. Discrepancies in shrinkage estimates, as made by various buyers or reported by interested mills, also show that in many cases it is extremely difficult for a grower to effect a sale on the basis of the actual shrinkage of his clip. The greatest loss occurs on clips that shrink materially less than others of the same type grown in the same section. Numerous cases arise where salesmen and buyers at the market are far apart in their estimates of shrinkage.

Equipment for test-scouring of samples consisting of a number of bags is necessary. Such scouring should be under uniform and standardized methods, and the results made available to any interested party. If arrangements for such service cannot be obtained through the trade, it would be a proper function for the government to perfect such a standardized method and to make its use available to those desiring it.

### STOCKYARDS

Since the enactment of the law of 1921, the Packers and Stockyards Administration has operated under severe difficulties. Its undertakings have been chiefly in connection with charges collected for stockyard and commission sales service. Numerous decisions made under the act by the Secretary of Agriculture have been appealed to the courts, resulting in serious delay in progress. For

the future, this situation will be materially improved as a result of two decisions rendered by the United States Supreme Court in 1936. The Court decided in favor of the Secretary of Agriculture in the appealed cases of commission charges at the Chicago market and yardage charges at the St. Joseph market. There was ordered to be refunded over one million dollars which represented the difference in the charges actually collected in these cases and the lower rates ordered into effect by the Secretary of Agriculture, from which orders the appeals were taken. However, several other cases are still in litigation.

The Capper bill for the regulation and curtailment of the direct marketing of livestock was defeated in the United States Senate. At the same time there was substituted the Murphy bill which provides for numerous, necessary amendments to the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921. The Murphy bill, however, was not considered by the House of Representatives. It is certain that similar legislation will be placed before the 75th Congress. I have attended several conferences with other organizations and interests regarding the character of the amendments that should be supported. Further consideration of this matter will be given by the appropriate committees at our 72nd Annual Convention.

### NATIONAL LIVE STOCK AND MEAT BOARD

As in former years, I have represented the association as a director of the National Live Stock and Meat Board. The Board continues to do most excellent work along educational and demonstrational lines. Particularly the series of cooking schools and demonstrations which are now being conducted in various parts of the country afford a most fruitful way of educating consumers as to the values and economy in the use of meats.

There seems to be little probability of any material increase in the funds available for support of the activities of the Board. Also, the limitation of the work of the Board, in view of the large interests of producers and handlers of other meats, makes it impossible to have conducted through that organization, some lines of study and investigation of lamb consumption which would be of extremely great value to producers. It is because of this situation that I have recommended in another part of this report that the association should provide, as soon as possible, for some new lines of investigation of outlets for lamb in different parts of the country and for its merchandising to the hotel and restaurant trade.

### RAM SALE

The 21st Annual National Ram Sale was held in August, 1936. In most breeds there was marked improvement in the quality and condition of the rams offered for sale. While prices were encouragingly higher in some breeds, yet in others there was a reaction, the cause of which has not yet been explained satisfactorily.

The National Ram Sale cannot expect again to hold the position in the ram trade that it occupied prior to the establishment of numerous state and local sales throughout the West that are giving excellent service to breeders and ram buyers. Probably the sale should be continued in its present extent as a service to both breeders and purchasers of rams who do not have access to the other sales for the desired type of rams.

### FINANCE AND ORGANIZATION

The National Wool Growers Association is made up practically altogether of eleven member-associations representing as many states. No new state associations have asked for membership. Some progress has been made in establishing working relations with Nevada.

Total individual membership in affiliated organizations has not been reported for 1936, but it is certain that most of the states have increased the numbers of their members. It would seem that 1937 offers an opportunity to extend the direct representation in the association and to increase cautiously the very limited service that it has been possible to render in recent very lean years.

Association dues received for 1936, through quotas contributed by eleven state organizations, amounted to \$18,450. For 1935 the amount was \$15,918.76. Net income from the National Ram Sale was \$1289.11.

The amount assessed to each state and payments made are shown in the table, along with summary of expenditures.

Our expenditures in 1936 were \$15,091.35, or \$500 more than in 1935. The highest income ever received was \$31,935.62, in 1931. Expenditures for that year were \$35,555.69, of which \$15,198.47 was used in the "Eat More Lamb" campaign. There have been no expenditures since 1932 for promotion of lamb consumption.

For each of the last four years the executive committee has set up a budget of \$25,000. In 1935 and 1936, approximately \$16,000 has been received. Actual expenditures have always been planned and controlled to avoid material outlay beyond actual income.

It is plain that for the year 1937 the association should be in a position to spend much more than \$15,091.35, the total outlay for 1936. It is certain that the expense of keeping track of freight rate matters and formal procedure before the Interstate Commerce Commission will need to be considerably more than in recent years.

An estimate of amounts needed for this and each of the other lines of work in 1937 will be included in a proposed budget to be submitted to the executive committee.

The major part of the outlay shown for convention, legislation, and marketing has consisted of travel expenses of officers and association committees. In connection with the Argentine Sanitary Convention now pending at Washington and further reciprocal trade agreements, it is most important to the industry that the association should be in a position to send a number of representatives to Wash-

ington or elsewhere, fully to present the views and interests of the sheep industry. Other matters of national legislation, some desirable and some injurious, are certain to be under consideration as well as new and unfinished matters with various executive departments of the government.

If at all possible, some special work should be started to make a broad study of the facts about the use of lamb in different states and cities and in different sections of the trade, such as institutions, hotels and restaurants and in private homes as well. This is a vital type of work that does not come within the scope of the National Live Stock and Meat Board. Neither does this type of work come within the ordinary program of the packers, though we probably will have their cooperation if some new work is provided for.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Year 1936

#### Expenditures

OFFICE:			Budget
General	\$ 321.53		Allotment
Supplies	219.02		For Year
Rent	450.00		
Salaries	7,468.82		
Telegraph	252.10		
Telephone	125.35		
Tax—Federal Revenue	11.98		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 8,848.80</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>	
ORGANIZATION AND CONVENTION:			
Organization	\$731.79	1,291.86	1,000.00
Convention	560.07		
LEGISLATIVE		1,693.90	5,000.00
LAMB AND WOOL MARKETING		441.04	1,000.00
FREIGHT RATE CASES		1,458.75	1,500.00
SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID FOR UNDER			
\$10. CLAUSE		1,357.00	1,000.00
LAMB ADVERTISING			5,000.00
EMERGENCY			500.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$15,091.35</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL INCOME FOR 1936</b>	<b>\$19,787.11</b>		

#### Income

QUOTA PAYMENTS FOR 1936:		
State	Quota for Year	Payments(1)
Arizona	\$ 639.00	\$ 250.00
California	2,885.00	2,012.00
Colorado	1,344.00	1,308.00
Idaho	1,782.00	1,782.00
Montana	3,008.00	3,008.00
New Mexico	1,979.00	1,017.00
Oregon	1,943.00	1,943.00
Texas	3,000.00	3,004.00
Utah	2,014.00	1,541.00
Washington	572.00	581.00
Wyoming	2,829.00	2,004.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,995.00</b>	<b>\$18,450.00</b>
From other states		48.00
Ram Sale		1,289.11
<b>TOTAL INCOME FOR 1936</b>		<b>\$19,787.11</b>

(1) Includes dues paid by individuals direct to National.

## THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

The same office force of three salaried persons who handle all association activities has also continued to prepare and publish the monthly issues of the National Wool Grower. This publication occupies a peculiar field in that it attempts to give current information and educational material of equal interest to wool growers in the various states. No attempt is made to render the type of news service that gives such great interest and value to the publications of our member-associations. Unfortunately, the circulation of the National Wool Grower reached a low point during the worst depression years and has not yet recovered its former number of readers and subscribers. Doubtless a considerable number of wool growers who are not members of any state association would subscribe for the National Wool Grower on a strictly subscription

basis. However, it continues to be the policy of the association to attempt to enlist as members, all persons who are interested in the organization work conducted for their industry. Further cooperation with the various associations will be undertaken next year with a view to placing the paper in the hands of a larger number of growers, and of interesting them in taking out regular membership in the organization of their state.

I wish to record my special thanks to Mr. J. B. Wilson of Wyoming for the great assistance given in the handling at Washington of many projects of great importance to the industry generally.

Respectfully submitted,

F. R. MARSHALL

## The Albuquerque Convention

(Continued from page 16)

12. Development in the interest of truthful merchandising ties in very closely with federal grading. The federal lamb grading plan fits admirably into lamb distribution and identifies qualities for what they are, gives producers equitable prices for such qualities, directs the flow of the various grades of lamb to the sections where such qualities are in best demand, provides economies in marketing and makes for greater satisfaction and pleasanter business relations.

Mr. McCarthy pointed out the good and bad features of the carcasses exhibited, which graded from cull to choice.

The other side of the compulsory lamb grading picture was given by the packer representatives: Mr. Paul Smith, vice president of Swift and Company, and Mr. E. N. Wentworth, head of Armour's Research Bureau. They urged caution in taking action in the matter.

Mr. Smith suggested that before reaching a decision, the lamb raisers should be sure that they had the full facts. He said, in part:

The East has gotten into the lamb business. You people used to produce by far the largest proportion of lamb consumed in this country. Now you produce only about 50 per cent. The other 50 per cent is raised in the East, the product of small flocks. Now then, the East is close to market. They market practically 100 per cent of their lambs by truck. I know of large concentration points in the East where 90 per cent of all the lambs sold, are brought there in

the back end of an automobile. They bring them in two, three, five and six at a time. The East can produce and market practically 100 per cent good and choice lambs because they can hold them back until they reach that point. You western folks have some limiting factors. When you get ready to ship, you have to ship and you usually have to ship a carload. You have to ship some lambs grading medium and some grading common. I do not want to go into the question of whether it would be smart merchandising to have compulsory grading, but you had better take that into consideration before you make up your minds on the question.

Mr. Smith was particularly concerned about the cull lamb shown on the rack. "From a breeding standpoint," he said, "that is not a poor-quality lamb; not a bit poorer than the prime lamb further up the rack. I do not know of any producer who wants to produce cull lambs. I have never known of one who did not want to produce good meat. Why don't they? Why doesn't that cull lamb turn out good? Maybe it did not have enough feed; perhaps in shipping a car you had to put it in to make up the weight. The producer did not want to produce that type of meat. It results from conditions over which he had no control. You folks want to make up your minds if you want that little critter which did not get fat and had to go to market one month before he should to be marketed under the name of cull. I feel sorry for that cull lamb. I like the little fellow. We have lots of markets where almost as much would be paid for this cull as for the better grade of

lamb. Everything is dependent on the class of trade."

Mr. Wentworth told the convention that the trend is toward grading but might be upset by federal legislation.

(The Lamb Marketing Committee in whose hands lay the matter of recommendation for the Association's position on the question of compulsory lamb grading, apparently was unable to agree as their report, as presented on the last day of the convention, made no recommendation in this connection.)

Discussion on the lamb grading question was interrupted long enough at noon to permit the group to go over to the Masonic Temple and enjoy a lamb barbecue and some red hot chili, which was part of the entertainment furnished by Albuquerque at no cost to the visiting sheepmen.

### Recent Trends in the Sheep and Lamb Business

This subject was handled by Mr. Gerald B. Thorne of Wilson and Company, Chicago. He pointed out that sheep production since 1930 has been maintained at a relatively high level as compared with previous years and also has remained unusually stable. During this period the sheep population has varied from 53,974,000, all-time high in 1932, to 51,690,000, the number estimated for January 1, 1936.





*Safeway Market No. 950, at Albuquerque, New Mexico, during the National Convention.*

Government estimates for this year, Mr. Thorne said, were not yet available but will probably show an increase. While there has been stability in production for the country as a whole, this is not true for individual states in the West. Texas has materially increased her production while there have been decreases in New Mexico, Utah, Colorado and Nevada. In 1910 California, Arizona and Texas had about 10 per cent of the total sheep population. Now they have about one fourth of the total. The effect of these geographical shifts on seasonal distribution of markets and the type of sheep that go to market were discussed by Mr. Thorne.

I mention these seasonal movements in order to point out that in trying to size up the market situation for lambs from any one area, it is highly important to give consideration to the lamb situation in the areas where the market movement occurs at the same time. A case in point is the prospective market supply situation during the first half of this year.

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics estimates that the number of lambs on feed January 1 was about 5 per cent smaller than a year ago. There was a decrease of 18.5 per cent in the corn belt, but in the western states there was an increase of 15 per cent. Most of the increase in the West was in areas that market their fed lambs during January and February—such as Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana.

In the important late marketing areas of northern Colorado, the Arkansas Valley and Scott's Bluff area of Nebraska, the number on feed was 23 per cent smaller than last year. The latter part of the movement of

Colorado and Nebraska lambs comes in competition with grass lambs and yearlings from Texas. Indications point to an unusually heavy Texas movement next spring. Despite a record lamb crop in Texas last year, marketings during the last half of the year were small. Attractive wool prices and favorable feed conditions apparently prompted the holding over of a very large number. California early lambs, usually marketed in April and May, have had a poor start due to unfavorable weather and the market movement may be somewhat delayed and smaller than anticipated earlier. In Arizona, conditions are very favorable at present. Thus, the month of May may be a difficult one from the market supply standpoint. At least it is a situation worth watching, and if present indications continue to prevail, it will be a market period which those producers who are in a position to do so, may want to avoid. Such situations, when they develop, are of much concern to the packer as well as the producer since they call for extra efforts in merchandising mutton and lamb.

Mr. Thorne also cited some interesting figures on the by-products of lamb which show their importance to both producer and processor.

The so-called by-products—or perhaps we should say, the products other than meat, constitute a much larger proportion of the total market value of sheep and lambs than is the case for any other class of meat animals. It is a very important factor in the sheep and lamb business of the processor, and it is also of great importance to the producer, as the following figures indicate.

On the basis of wholesale prices prevailing at Chicago around the middle of January, the total value of all the products obtained from 100 pounds of good to choice live lamb was \$11.75. This included the value of the meat, pelt, offal, fats and casings. It does not represent the price of good to choice

lambs on that date, since it includes all of the costs of buying, killing, processing, and other handling charges, in addition to the costs of the live lamb. Of this \$11.75, \$7.50 represented the value of the meat, and \$4.25 represented the value of the by-products. In other words, the by-products constitute 36 per cent of the wholesale value of the lamb. The significance of the value of by-products is also illustrated by the fact that from December 15 to January 15, the rise in by-product values alone was equivalent to about 60 cents for a 90-pound lamb.

### *The Mid-Winter Lamb Sale*

First reports of effects of the National Mid-Winter Lamb Sale (January Wool Grower, page 21) inaugurated by the National Association of Food Chains and receiving the full support of the National Association of Retail Grocers, the National Association of Retail Meat Dealers, the Institute of American Meat Packers, and the National Livestock and Meat Board, were given by Mr. Raymond W. Miller, president of the Agricultural Trade Relations, Inc., of San Francisco. The campaign opened shortly after the middle of January to continue through February, and for the week ending the 23rd, Mr. Miller said large increases were reported in the volume of lambs sold as compared to the corresponding period in 1936. Pittsburg had reported a 59 per cent increase; Virginia, 35 per cent; Washington, D. C., which ordinarily has a heavy lamb sale, 33 per cent; rural New Jersey, 66 per cent; Geneva, New York, and nearby rural places, 35 per cent; and Springfield, Illinois, 79 per cent. Cleveland, Ohio, had reported selling 1,000 lambs as compared with 300 in the corresponding week last year. The present lamb sale is using 8,000 newspapers with a joint circulation of 25 million in 48 states and the District of Columbia.

Mr. R. A. Ward, general manager of the Pacific Wool Growers, the wool cooperative of the Northwest, pinch-hitted for Mr. Mac Hoke of Pendleton, Oregon, who was scheduled for an address at this afternoon's meeting but

unable to attend. Mr. Ward told of the action taken by the National Cooperative Council in its recent meeting in Washington, D. C., especially in opposition to the renewal of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act. Little hope, he said, was held, however, that the measure could be defeated.

### **Wildlife and Predatory Animal Control**

The relationship between the wildlife and predatory animal control work of the Biological Survey was explained to the convention by the Chief of the Survey, Mr. Ira N. Gabrielson, in his general discussion of the activities of that branch of the Department of Agriculture.

The Biological Survey, Mr. Gabrielson said, is "committed to a program for developing a system of wildlife refuges which will, so far as possible, insure the perpetuation of the flights of migratory waterfowl."

It will also provide homes for each of our major species of wildlife within its natural habitat. \*\*\* Also, a series of big game ranges to provide for a limited number of game animals has been proposed, to be jointly administered by the Grazing Division of the Interior Department and the Biological Survey. On such areas grazing is to be handled by the grazing districts though always reserving for the wild animals a sufficient quantity of feed. The establishment of these areas is criticized both by the radical conservationists and the stockmen. We welcome, however, any opportunity to work out with the stockmen a sane program for the management of both game and livestock. We believe that with the recovery of the western range there will be plenty of room for both livestock and game. We also realize very clearly that big game cannot be allowed to increase indefinitely. Browsing and grazing animals, such as deer, antelope, and elk, can literally eat themselves into starvation as surely as domestic stock can increase beyond the carrying capacity of either pasture and range. \*\*\*\*\*

A great many wild stories have been afloat regarding this part of the program. Radical eastern conservationists have in the past accused the Survey of selling out to the livestock groups, and the livestock men, or some of their radical spokesmen, have expressed the fear that the Bureau wanted to put livestock men out of business. Obviously both of these statements cannot be true. As a matter of fact neither of them is true. \*\*\*

The Biological Survey knows that grazing is the only possible economic use that can be made of vast areas of western lands. \*\*\*\*

We also realize, perhaps more keenly than some of you, that there are scores of places in the West where stocks of deer, antelope, sage hens and other forms of wildlife exist only because of the personal interest of individual stockmen or groups of stockmen. (The full text of Mr. Gabrielson's address will be printed in the March issue of the Wool Grower.)

The convention closed this afternoon in time to permit the committees to get to work and tonight they are all busy whipping their reports into shape for presentation at tomorrow's session.

## **January 28, 1937**

How New Mexico is handling its wildlife problem through cooperation with stockmen was discussed by Mr. Elliott S. Barker, state game warden, at the opening of today's session. Shortly after the passage of the Taylor Grazing Act, representatives of the New Mexico Wool Growers Association, the New Mexico Cattlemen's Association, the State Game Protective Association, the State Game Department, the University of New Mexico, State Agricultural College, State Land Commissioner, and the several federal agencies concerned, met to consider the wildlife question in connection with the administration of the new public domain measure. Many and lengthy were their deliberations, but finally a general program was worked out and a set of rules agreed upon to provide for the needs of wildlife on the public domain. This plan finally received the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, and the representatives of the organizations previously named became the Land Use Committee of the State Planning Board.

Rule 3, Special Rules for Grazing Districts in New Mexico, covers the set-up for wildlife management along with the administration of the grazing districts. It provides for the appointment of one advisor in each grazing district to represent wildlife and recreational resources. His qualifications are the same as the other district advisors, except that he need not be an owner of livestock, and he is nominated by the Land Use Committee of the State Planning Board.

Rule 3 also sets forth the general principles for the conservation and protection of wildlife upon which the State Game Commission forms its game management plans, which are submitted to the Land Use Committee of the New Mexico State Planning Board for approval.

Mr. Barker expressed his firm conviction that friendly cooperation would solve the wildlife problem.

### **Wool**

The main feature of the wool section of the convention program, over which President Charles Redd of the National Wool Marketing Corporation presided, was the address by Mr. C. J. Fawcett, general manager of the National Wool Marketing Corporation. (Detail on Mr. Fawcett's talk is omitted here, as it is printed in full on page 31.)

Manufacturers in recent years have used their ingenuity in furnishing woolen fabrics that meet the demands of men and women in the selection of their wearing apparel. One of the leaders in this movement has been the Botany Worsted Mills of Passaic, New Jersey, and to give wool growers an opportunity to see just what is being done along this line, that firm sent a very complete but compact exhibit of wool fabrics, which was set up in the lobby of the Alvarado Hotel. All week, groups of wool growers and their wives have crowded around the display between and after convention sessions, interested in seeing just what their wool turns into under the clever hands of an up-to-date manufacturer.

Mr. Otto Stabell of the New York house of Botany Mills gave to the visitors to the booth the benefit of his very thorough knowledge of the manufacturing business and also told the convention this morning about the modern trends in wool fabrics.

A paper covering the work of Associated Wool Industries was read by Secretary Wing of the California Association. The efforts of A.W.I., which has been in operation for almost two years now under the financial support of manufacturers, wool dealers and growers, have undoubtedly brought results. By using the various channels now open for publicity, it has been

possible to build up a greater demand from the public in general and by contact with retailers, which forms a big part of A.W.I. work, a larger direct promotion of wool has been secured.

### 1938 Convention Site

Speculation over the outcome of the competition between supporters of Salt Lake City, Utah, and San Angelo, Texas, for the next convention city of the National Wool Growers Association, has been one of the chief undercurrents of the convention.

The Texas delegation, large in number and exceptionally spirited, arrived on Monday and have been decidedly active. This morning the meeting was treated to an outburst of oratory such as is seldom heard at a wool growers' and perhaps any convention, when the Texas group presented their invitation. Mr. Roy Hudspeth, the newly elected president of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association, spoke for that body and declared Texas sheepmen were fully convinced of the value of the National Association to the industry and were planning on giving increased financial support to its undertakings. Mr. C. B. Wardlaw of Del Rio seconded the invitation of the Texas sheepmen, and no one could have given a more attractive picture of what San Angelo itself offers than its Mayor, Dorsey B. Hardeman.

Salt Lake City's qualifications were presented by Mr. James A. Hooper in his customary fine style.

What decision the convention might have made, is not known, for the selection of the site for the annual meeting rests with the Executive Committee, and when that body met after the close of today's sessions, the Texas delegation withdrew their invitation in favor of Salt Lake, some sort of a gentlemen's agreement apparently having been made on the outside that the 1939 convention would go to Texas.

### Committee Reports

Since the actual administration of the Taylor Grazing Act has gotten under way, the public domain problem has lost much of its power to launch a good debate in a sheepmen's convention, and this year, had it not been for

the rising of the old long-and-short-haul question again, the adopting of the committee reports would have been a very smooth affair.

As originally presented, the report of the Committee on General Economic and Government Relations contained the following section:

"We oppose any limitation or modification in any form of the 4th Section of the Interstate Commerce Act."

Secretary Wing declared that such a resolution was not in order, owing to an agreement made by the Executive Committee of the National Association several years ago that the Association would not take part in any transportation matter in which all the states were not in accord. Mr. Lee of New Mexico, presiding during the afternoon session, held that the convention superseded the Executive Committee, and that the resolution could properly be considered. Mr. Barratt then moved, seconded by Mr. Wing, that that section of the report be tabled, and the count of the votes, which were cast by each state in a number based on quota payments to the National Association for 1936, showed California, New Mexico, Oregon and Texas, with a total of 92 votes, in favor of tabling the resolution, and Idaho, Utah and Wyoming casting a total of 57 negative votes.

(Committee reports as adopted are printed in full in this issue.)

### Election of Officers

Mr. J. B. Wilson, as chairman of the Nominating Committee, reported that the committee was unanimous in naming Mr. R. C. Rich to succeed himself in the office of president, which decision was based on a deep appreciation and respect for his ability.

For vice presidents, the committee named Messrs. Sylvan J. Pauly of Montana, C. B. Wardlaw of Texas, and T. J. Drumheller of Washington. Their selection, Mr. Wilson explained, had been made largely on the basis of full quota payments from their states for 1936 to the National.

Mr. S. M. Jorgensen of Utah said that he knew he could speak for Messrs. Johns and Warren, the two other retiring vice presidents, in ex-

pressing appreciation of the honor that had been given them in acting as vice presidents the past few years.

"I want to assure you," he said, "that your interests are my interests and anything I can do to foster the interests of the wool growing industry, I want to do. And at this time I want to move that we suspend the rules and elect these gentlemen who have been nominated as vice presidents by acclamation."

The motion was seconded and candidates named were placed in office by the rising vote of the convention.

And the convention was over.

### New Executive Committee

According to custom, the Executive Committee met immediately following the adjournment of the convention. At that time Mr. F. R. Marshall was re-appointed as secretary-treasurer and a budget of \$30,000 (\$5,000 over that for 1936) was voted for Association work during 1937.

The membership of the Executive Committee for 1937 was named by the various states as follows: Arizona, D. W. Campbell; California, F. C. Clarke; Colorado, N. G. Winder; Idaho, Merle L. Drake; Montana, H. C. Gardiner; New Mexico, F. W. Lee; Oregon, J. G. Barratt; Texas, G. W. Cunningham; Utah, W. D. Candland; Washington, A. W. Lawson; Wyoming, J. B. Wilson.

The 72nd annual convention will soon be a matter of record. Most of the crowd has left or is about ready to leave for home.

Those who have been able to attend the Albuquerque convention must have been very well repaid. The program has offered material on all important phases of the industry, and the hospitality of Albuquerque would be hard to surpass. The visiting ladies have been feted with teas and luncheons and drives and the entire convention, of course, enjoyed the lamb barbecue and the dance.

They speak of Albuquerque as "the city no one forgets." We believe that, and likewise feel sure the memory of the 72nd annual convention will also be a lasting one.



# The Lamb Markets in January

## Chicago

**T**HE lamb trade regales in a fairly strong current, while cattle and hogs are waging a losing fight to hold the gains made earlier this winter. Until a few weeks ago the lamb market was considered in a very weak position and had to depend upon an advance in prices of other species to lift it out of the doldrums. Now it appears that the height of the large runs has passed, average weight will be lighter from now on, and wool will continue to support lamb prices.

A sharp upturn in prices was initiated with the beginning of the year. Top lambs at Chicago had fluctuated from \$9 to \$9.35 most of late December, but got out of buyers' control the first week of the new year and went to \$10. From there the advance was almost uninterrupted until the seasonal peak of \$11 was registered on January 12.

Prices have been unusually sensitive to size of receipts, despite the fact that the market has been in what seemed a fundamentally strong position. Also, receipts have followed closely the price trend. Any advance in prices was usually followed by increased numbers the following day. Likewise, the breaks in the market brought about abridged receipts the following day, thus allowing for recovery of values. This situation might be interpreted as significant from two angles: First, the fat lamb supply is in hands strong enough to avoid liquidation merely because prices take a turn for the worse. Instead, prices that seem unfavorable are the signal to withhold shipments to some extent. Secondly, the fat lamb supply that has been coming in recently, as well as that expected for the immediate future, is in nearby feed lots, notably Illinois, Iowa and Indiana.

Comparatively few native fed lambs are being seen on the Chicago market. As is usually the case during the winter, supplies of natives are small at the season that fed westerns are moving

freely. Most of the fed westerns are coming from the states above enumerated. Minnesota is shipping some, but the exodus of fat lambs from the Pipestone region of that state, as well as other less famous feeding areas, is nearly complete.

Colorado and Nebraska lambs are not yet arriving at this market in appreciable numbers. Trade reports from those states indicate many heavyweights in the supply to come.

Speaking of strong-weight lambs, the crop of these registered a substantial reduction the past two weeks. Until mid-January, weights of fed lambs were running considerably in excess of most other years. Lambs had made good gains during the fair weather of the autumn months. Then, many over-stayed the time originally planned for marketing. But these

heavies—many of which weighed 100 to 110 pounds—sold within a very narrow margin of quotations for 85 to 90 pound averages. The let-up in marketings of strong-weights came all at once, so that at present droves weighing over 100 pounds are rather the exception.

The feeder lamb trade has advanced in proportion to the fat lamb market. Finishers evidently are thinking little of the high cost of gains in anticipation of what they think will be high prices for fat stock later on. Naturally, the movement of feeders is light at present due to lack of offerings but occasional sales of choice westerns are made at \$9.25, with fair to good westerns quoted at \$8.50 to \$9.

Wool prices continue in a very strong position, and this, of course, lends actual as well as moral strength to the



Topping the price list in the recent Ogden Livestock Show auction, Harry Crandell's (Caro, Michigan), grand champion fat lamb brought \$1.60 per pound, the purchase being made through Merrion & Wilkins for George A. Hormel and Company, Austin, Minn., packer. The lamb weighed 100 pounds. Above from left to right are shown E. J. Fjeldsted, manager of the Ogden Livestock Show, Hon. Henry H. Blood, Governor of Utah, Harry Crandell posing the lamb, Russell Wilkins of Merrion & Wilkins and L. M. Pexton, vice president of the Ogden and Denver Union Stockyards companies.

live market on ovine stock. Heavy consumption is largely the explanation. A trade comment points out that the arrival of 1937 witnessed the lowest available supply of domestic apparel wools for a great many years.

The slaughter of lambs is nearly a third larger than even ten years ago, yet the sheep business moves right along. According to the figures of many of the lamb feeders who are liquidating stock here this winter, corn marketed through fat lambs is bringing at least \$1.50 per bushel. Some droves are said to be paying \$2.25 and more for the corn consumed.

Receipts of sheep and lambs at Chicago during January amounted to nearly 258,000 head, or about 10,000 larger than a year ago. The seven largest markets received a combined total of about 870,000 lambs for the month, against about 860,000 a year ago. Marketings, as shown by these figures, are slightly larger than a year ago, although numbers reported on feed as of January 1, 1937, were four per cent smaller than a year ago. This latter is a government estimate.

The largest decreases, as indicated by the report, were in Nebraska, South Dakota and Iowa—that is, in the western corn belt. Practically all of the decreases indicated were in the corn belt. Western states, except Nebraska and Colorado, showed increases.

Only a relatively small proportion of the record crop of Texas lambs has as yet been marketed. With the continuation of favorable feed conditions in the principal sheep area of that state during the next few months, a very heavy marketing of grass-fat yearlings in April and May is probable. It is doubtful, however, if any large part of these will come to the Chicago market. Receipts direct to packers usually account for the majority of Texas sheep and lambs sent to this point.

Little is known of the prospects for the spring lamb crop. Lambing is under way in some of the western and southwestern sections. Feed conditions are expected to be fairly favorable.

Wool prices on the Boston market

have advanced consistently the past month, a continuation of the trend of previous months. Gains in the past 30 days amount to from six to nine cents per clean pound.

Returns from the various kinds of offal, too, are lending buoyance. Prime packer edible tallow at Chicago is quoted at  $10\frac{1}{2}@10\frac{3}{4}$  cents, exactly three cents above a year ago. Other tallows containing mutton tallow show similar advances. The "pluck" finds a strong market.

Bullishness is the keynote of the live lamb trade, speaking from the standpoint of the men who are feeding, and those on the market here. The ability to sustain prices of lambs under stress of heavy receipts of all species of fat stock is partly responsible. Anticipated lighter tonnage of beef, pork and lamb to be marketed the balance of the winter contributes to the conviction that better times are coming.

## St. Joseph

**R**ECEIPTS for the month of January were comparatively light, the total being approximately 78,500, compared with 70,725 last month and 104,705 in January a year ago. During the last ten days the run of fed lambs from the different feeding districts was on the increase.

As receipts were light at all points, there was an undertone of strength most of the month and lamb values are  $75@\$1$  higher than at the close of last month. At the month's opening best lambs sold at \$9.50. During the first week prices reached \$10, and from then until the close the market was up and down, closing with best at \$10.40, and less desirable and heavy kinds  $10.15@10.35$ . Clips sold at \$9 on the close, but choice kinds were quoted up to \$9.25 or higher. There was a good demand for aged sheep throughout the month and such classes are mostly \$1 higher. On the close choice ewes sold up to \$5.75, choice yearlings were quotable up to \$9.50, two-year-olds  $8@8.50$ , and old wethers  $6@6.50$ .

H. H. Madden

## Omaha

**T**HE upturn near the close of last year which brightened the outlook for feeders continued into January, with all classes of sheep and lambs on the Omaha market scoring substantial advances.

The increase in lambs was marked, values being fully  $75c@\$1$  higher at the close of the period as compared with prevailing levels one month earlier. The advance was more or less gradual and fairly evenly distributed over the entire month, although the most increase came before midmonth.

Top reached \$10.65, paid several times for choice offerings, for the first time on the local market since late last June. As the month ended, most of the fed woolskins were turned at  $10.15@10.40$ .

Wooled lambs from commercial feed lots made up the bulk of the month's supply. Even though local feeders kept a steady stream of stock coming to market, feeders from Colorado and western Nebraska, and other western states sent in the big end of the offerings. It was about the middle of the month before feeders in the Scotts Bluff area began to sell in any considerable numbers.

Since feeders were partial to heavier lambs when filling their lots, it was not surprising that 90 to 100-pound lambs were common. Quality was reported as fair to good most of the time with occasional arrivals of choice lots.

The strong position of wool was an important factor in building up values. Throughout most of the period, dressed carcasses moved quite satisfactorily. The almost complete absence of shipper demand was a conspicuous feature of the market. However, receipts never proved burdensome to local packers.

With slaughter prices soaring, feeders hastened to replenish their supplies, resulting in an advance in prices in unfinished stock that amounted to  $1.25@1.50$  over the month as a whole. After reaching \$9.80 for a new recent high, the pressure weakened and prices leveled off to finish with a top of

(Continued on page 60)

# Around the Range Country

(Continued from page 9)

A few more ewes are bred to lamb this spring than a year ago. About the usual number of ewe lambs were held back by sheepmen last fall for breeding purposes.

There have been no cases of forced liquidation reported in this district. Money can be had by sheepmen at 5 per cent, but the loans from regular banks to stockmen remain quite limited.

Shortage of hunters, I think, is the cause of the increase in coyotes. In most counties they could use two or three more hunters in territory assigned to one man.

Henry E. Rooper

## CALIFORNIA

Exceptionally cold weather prevailed throughout the state during nearly the entire month. Storms were frequent, and mountain snows were deep over the northern portion. Weather conditions were unfavorable to livestock, many lambs being lost in the northern valleys. The growth of grains and grasses has been slow because of freezing weather over the central and southern portions. Forage, however, has continued plentiful. As a rule, livestock are in satisfactory condition.

### *Knights Landing*

Conditions here are poor (January 30): snow, rain and cold weather prevail. We usually have good feed by January 1, but there is none yet this year. Practically all of the sheep are having to be fed with hay or grain, and baled hay is costing us \$22.50 f. o. b. ranch.

Eldorado Ranch

### *Rio Vista*

This has been the toughest winter in the Montezuma Hill section of Solano County in my experience of 25 years. It has been necessary to feed a much larger proportion of our sheep than in previous years. Hay is not sold

here in the stack. I paid \$27 per ton for chopped alfalfa mixed with molasses today (January 25).

The number of ewes bred to lamb this season was about the same as usual. There were more ewe lambs kept over last fall for flock replacements.

I was offered 30 cents for my cross-bred wool, but shipped it to the National Wool Marketing Corporation.

Two coyotes appeared in this territory this winter, the first in years. The Biological Survey trapper came in and he got one female on short order.

No sheep outfits of this section are being liquidated. Money can be had at 6 to 7 per cent interest, and there is a slight increase in loans to sheepmen from the banks.

E. C. Dozier

### *Livermore*

We have had cold north winds, temperatures as low as 19 degrees, and poor feed during January. It is much colder this year (January 25) than last, although feed conditions are about as they were then. Baled hay costs us \$25 a ton.

A few more ewes were bred to lamb this season than last; about the usual number of ewe lambs were retained last fall for breeding purposes.

We do not have any coyotes around here, as we get good state and county protection. Eagles are bothering us some.

I haven't heard of any sheep outfits being forced to liquidate. Money can be borrowed at 7 per cent interest.

G. F. Elliott

### *Delano*

The weather was pretty dry from the first of December to about the 23rd of the month. It then began raining and has more or less kept it up since.

The feed prospects are excellent (January 7). The hay prices have

eased off somewhat. Alfalfa is all baled in this locality and has been bringing around \$15 or \$16 a ton.

There are practically no lambs fed in this area. There have been a few more breeding ewes brought into the country and a few more ewe lambs brought in or held over for breeding purposes.

The ages are good, though the bands are run with ages pretty well mixed from yearlings up to five or six years, with quite a sprinkling of the latter age.

I understand a few yearling ewes changed hands earlier in the season at around \$6.

The coyotes are much worse this year than they have been for the last three years. The reason, no doubt, can be attributed to the fact that no bounty is paid for coyotes. This year in particular the snow is worse in the mountains and is, no doubt, tending to drive them down into the lower country.

The prevailing rate of interest on loans to sheepmen seems to be 6 per cent.

Quite a few clips have been contracted, mostly of about one-half blood grade and at a price of from 25 to 28 cents.

E. W. Blair

## NEVADA

Severely cold weather prevailed through the month, the second and fourth weeks bringing the lowest temperatures of record to many places. Precipitation was frequent, and in some places exceptionally heavy, piling snow to almost unprecedented depths, in some localities. Heavy losses of sheep were reported locally, because the bands were too far from feed supplies when this deep snow came. Light losses of sheep were reported from several localities. All livestock were on full feed in feeding yards. Highways were badly blocked at times.



## UTAH

The most severely cold weather of record occurred fairly generally, the second and fourth weeks being almost equally cold. The deepest snow of record occurred over most of western Utah; much wind driving the snow blockaded highways. A few herds of cattle and many bands of sheep were isolated, some of them temporarily without feed. There was plenty of feed however, and while a general shrinkage was noted, actual losses due to weather and snow conditions were confined very largely to range sheep. Deep snow covered the state at the end of the month.

### Midvale

We have had cold weather and more snow during January this year than in 1936, but the feed has been better. A smaller number of range sheep are receiving supplemental feeds (January 28).

Breeding bands are of about the same size as last year. More ewe lambs were sold last fall than in previous years.

Crossbred wools have recently been contracted here at 34 cents.

Sheepmen can borrow money at 5 per cent interest; haven't heard of any forced liquidation.

There were more coyotes than ever this year, which is due, in my opinion, to the fact that we discontinued paying a bounty for them, and also because fur has been cheaper.

Charles E. Steadman

### Price

January weather conditions have been very bad, worse than for several years back. There were unusually heavy snows and in most cases feed had to be carried out on sleds to the sheep. The largest number of range sheep are getting feed this year that this vicinity has ever known (January 30). Hay prices range from \$9 to \$11 a ton, in the stack.

About 20 per cent more ewe lambs were kept last fall by sheepmen for their flocks. The number of ewes bred to lamb this spring is also up about 20 per cent in comparison with last year.

Fine wools were contracted during January at 32 cents and crossbreds at 33½ cents.

Handling the coyote problem by using men on the relief rolls has not worked out very well here. It is very difficult to get good hunters from that source, and it seems to me they should be eliminated entirely.

Sheepmen are able to get more money from the banks than in former recent years, and are paying 8 per cent interest for their loans. So far as I know, there has not been any forced liquidation of sheep outfits here.

Stylian Staes

### Hurricane

We have been snowed in through January; up to four feet of snow has fallen in some places. Nothing like this has ever been experienced in this district, and there is going to be a terrible loss in sheep and cattle on the Arizona Strip. It has been almost impossible to get supplies and feed to the sheep outfits. A few of them have not been reached yet (January 26).

Great thanks is due the C. C. C. Camps and the Forest and Park Services for their help to the stockmen of this country. I do not know what we would have done without them.

The weather has moderated some, which may save us, but we are still snowed under. It has, of course, been necessary to feed more sheep than usual. Hay has cost us \$13 a ton and \$52 a ton is being paid for cotton cake.

Some fine wools were contracted during the past month at 28 cents.

About the usual number of ewes were bred to lamb this spring.

Lack of sufficient number of trappers is permitting a large increase in coyotes.

I haven't heard of any sheep outfits of this section being forced to liquidate. Interest rates range from 6½ to 8 per cent.

W. H. Spendlove

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**COLORADO**

Abnormally cold weather prevailed during the middle and latter part of the month. Western counties were under fairly deep snow much of the month. Eastern counties needed more moisture, particularly in the southeastern portion. There was ample feed and range grass for cattle over the southeastern portion, though cold weather caused some suffering. Deep drifting snows over the western portion blockaded highways and isolated many bands of sheep. No important losses occurred however, and most livestock were reported doing fairly well.

**Durango**

Most owners are feeding quite heavily (January 30) and the sheep are doing well. The weather is cold, but conditions are better this year than for several years past. About 85 per cent of the range herds are being fed, but this is not above normal for this time of year. From \$6 to \$8 is being paid for alfalfa hay in the stack, according to locality.

I estimate 10 per cent more ewe lambs were kept in 1936 than in 1935. Breeding operations were about on the same scale as in the previous year.

From 28 to 30 cents is the range of prices for both fine and crossbred wools (this is a one-price territory) contracted in January. All indications point to good clips of wool, with a light shrink and good staple.

Only three small sheep outfits have been forced out of business. Most of the men are paying 8 per cent interest on their loans.

Coyotes are worse than for several years. The local association does not seem to be cooperating with the Biological Survey as in previous years and there is an apparent shortage of funds for the work of the Survey

A. H. Long

**Collbran**

Weather conditions have been good during January, although there is less feed on the winter range and we have had more snow and colder weather than

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a year ago. Most of the sheep in this section are put on feed as they come from fall pastures. What few bands are on winter range have had to have some supplemental feed, as oil cake or corn. Alfalfa hay in the stack is selling at \$6 a ton.

In this locality about the same number of ewes have been bred as a year ago, and about the usual number of ewe lambs were held back by wool growers last fall for breeding purposes.

All the wool in this immediate vicinity was contracted 60 days ago at 35 cents a pound.

There have been no forced liquidations that I have heard of. Sheepmen are paying 5 per cent for money borrowed through the Production Credit Association and 8 per cent for loans from the local banks. There does not seem to be any expansion of loans to stockmen from the banks—at least not to any pronounced extent.

Coyotes seem to be more plentiful than a year ago; in fact, they are very numerous. Cheap furs have prevented many local trappers from working and lack of funds has kept local associations from hiring trappers.

Roe M. Lyons

**Monte Vista**

Our weather has been mild during December and very dry. The last few days (January 4) there has been a good snow in the hills and what little snow fell in our valley the last of the month has off-set the dryness somewhat. We have no winter range here, most of the sheep wintering on hay or grain stubble fields. At the beginning of the season, alfalfa sold at \$10, but now it can be bought for around \$7 and native hay can be had at \$6.

Compared to last year, my estimation is that about the same number of range ewes have been bred for 1937 lambing. However, farm flocks have increased considerably. The ewe bands generally are of better ages than for the past two or three years. About the usual number of ewe lambs were held back last fall by sheepmen.

Around 15,000 fleeces have been sold at 30 cents, but lately buyers are only inquiring for medium clips.

Very few sheep outfits have been sold out here, the government set-up saving the day. Most all range men are paying 5 and 6 per cent interest for borrowed money. The past year our regular banks have again started to take on some ewe paper and, of course, are wanting feeder paper where the party has his own feed requirements.

Government hunters have kept the coyotes down fairly well, although they are plentiful yet. With good pelts bringing around \$9 each, we should see some decrease, as quite a few men here are making good wages trapping.

Sid F. Klecker

**NEW MEXICO**

Temperatures were well below normal through the month, one or two weeks being severely cold. Precipitation was fairly frequent, but was mostly very light, though locally some deep snows accumulated. Cattle showed some shrinkage as a general rule, and some light, scattered losses occurred among sheep, more especially over the northwestern portion; but as a rule, all animals have had ample feed and have held up in fairly good condition. The range is thin in the east however, and many livestock have not done so well.

**Galisteo**

Have had very good snows and feed conditions are good (January 27). Conditions, in fact, are about 90 per cent better than they have been in the past three years, and a much smaller number of range sheep are getting hay or grain. For alfalfa hay, \$13 a ton is the present price; prairie hay is about \$14. a ton.

There are about 10 per cent more bred ewes on hand here than a year ago and I think most of the sheepmen kept more of their ewe lambs last fall, about 10 per cent more, than in the previous year.

Some fine wools were contracted during January at 34 cents.

Local bankers seem to be willing to loan more money to sheepmen than for several years. No outfits have been forced to sell out. Money can be had at 6 per cent interest.



There have been no government men here the past year to poison or trap coyotes and they have made the most of it.

Jose Ortiz y Pino

### Questa

We have had cold and snowy weather during January, but the sheep are doing well (the 27th). While it is a little colder and there is more snow than we had a year ago, our sheep do better on sage brush with the snow. About the usual number of range sheep are getting supplemental feed.

The normal number of ewes for this section have been bred.

No wool contracting has been done recently.

Quillermo Rael

### Ledoux

Winter conditions have been better here than for several years; no hay or grain has had to be fed yet (February 4). Hay is selling around \$10 a ton in the stack.

This is a farming country and the flocks are small in size. We should have about the usual number of lambs this spring, as about the same number of ewes were bred as in previous years.

Coyotes are less numerous; they seem to have left this section for wilder country.

No wool has been contracted yet.

J. R. Quintana

### ARIZONA

The coldest weather in many years occurred, freezing green vegetation more or less badly over the southwestern portion. Deep snows over the northern counties, together with the severely low temperatures, were hard on livestock, and a few losses occurred, particularly among range sheep. As a rule feed was plentiful, however, and livestock have done pretty well.

### Palo Verde

The weather is cold and feed short (January 26). Hay is \$12 a ton in the stack.

There is a 15 per cent increase in the number of ewes bred to lamb as

compared with that of a year ago.

Wool contracting during January was on the basis of 37 cents for fine wools and 35 cents for crossbreds.

I have not heard of any sheep outfit being forced to liquidate. Six per cent is the prevailing interest rate on borrowed money.

Not as much control work has been done in this section recently and coyotes are more numerous than formerly.

E. R. Johnson

### Oracle

Green feed is appearing on the lower ranges (January 7). Alfalfa hay in the stack can be bought at \$15; for the most part, feed has been good on the winter range.

No wool has been contracted yet.

Sheepmen held back about the usual number of ewe lambs last fall for their breeding flocks and the ewes bred about equal in number the bands of a year ago.

The Biological Survey has done a wonderful work here in coyote control; very little trouble with them any more.

Jamieson Brothers

### WESTERN TEXAS

The entire month was unusually cold, the only mild period lasting but a few days. Precipitation was decidedly deficient, though January moisture supplies are never very dependable, and are less important than autumn and spring precipitation. The livestock remaining in this region have had fair feed supplies, and the principal suffering was due to cold weather. No important losses were reported.

### Kerrville

Weather is cold and rainy, but there is plenty of feed (January 28). There has really been too much moisture here; too wet for goats and sheep, and the grass is rotting in the low lands. A larger number of sheep have been fed this year than last winter.

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A larger number of ewes have been bred to lamb this season than last. No wool has been contracted in this country as yet.

Eight per cent is the prevailing interest rate on loans made to sheepmen. There has been an increased disposition on the part of local bankers to make loans to sheepmen; so far as I know, there have been no forced liquidations.

Harper Rawlings

#### Millersview

Exceptionally favorable conditions were registered for December and early January, the best we have had for some years. However, we will need rain in February or it will be necessary to do some feeding.

Slightly more ewes are bred to lamb this season than last year. The average age of our ewes has also increased; that is, we have a larger number of aged ewes than normal. I think a few more lambs were kept last fall for breeding purposes.

From 30 to 36 cents was the price range on wools contracted during December. No distinction was made as to grades; the size of the clips and the care given them by the growers are the only distinguishing points. Our greatest need is to increase the length of staple. Good reputable breeders need encouragement and protection from inferior rams being placed on the market.

Sheepmen are paying 5 to 8 per cent interest on their loans. No liquidations as yet, and there seems to be increasing interest in sheep loans on the part of the regular bankers.

We are not bothered with coyotes, but foxes, and they have increased in numbers due to the protection given on account of their fur.

Hiram Price

#### Fort Stockton

Weather and feed conditions have been fair this winter (January 5).

Not so many ewes have been bred as a year ago. They are of mixed ages, of course, but have a large yearling end. We also kept more than the usual number of ewe lambs last fall for breeding purposes.

Wool contracts during December were on a 34½ to 35-cent basis for fine wools.

There has been some forced liquidation, but only a very small per cent. Banks are loaning more money to sheepmen, but charging 8 per cent for it.

V. L. Porter

#### Spofford

I have never seen weather and range conditions any better anywhere before. The weather has been more nearly normal, there has been more grass, and the stock is wintering in fine shape (February 1). We feed very little hay or grain here, although a small number of sheep are given cake.

Our breeding bands are about the same size as they were a year ago. Practically all the ewe lambs were held back last fall by sheepmen for their flocks.

From 30 to 35 cents is the price range on wool contracts made here during January.

A few years ago some outfits were forced out of business, but with improved conditions now no liquidation is going on. I have heard that the banks are increasing their loans to sheepmen to a very large extent. They charge 8 per cent interest and the loan companies, 5 per cent.

Government and local trappers, better fences and a general fight on the part of all ranchers have just about solved our coyote problem. They give us very little trouble now.

G. W. Raney

#### Bandera

December weather was good. At present (January 7) there is plenty of long grass, some winter grasses are coming up, and quite a bit of grazing is afforded from oats and wheat. No alfalfa is grown here or fed to any extent. Feed comes principally from winter grazing of oats and wheat. Cane, hegari and some silage are also used.

No ewe lambs are sold here, but are kept to stock the farms. The ewe bands of this section are of all ages, but the old ewes are usually sold to the smaller stock-farmers who keep them

for breeding until they die. We have about the same number of fall lambs as in 1935.

We do not contract wool to any extent. We have a cooperative warehouse and sell our wool as it is shorn and the bids are good.

There are no large operators here and the outfits are individually owned and controlled. The banks have taken care of the stockmen in this county all through the depression and have been very considerate. They charge 8 per cent interest on their loans. Very few loans go through the Production Credit Association.

Coyotes have almost disappeared from our county.

Anton Pyka

## Lambing in Ohio

OUR lambs drop late for this section. We want them to begin coming April 1. Nearly all lambs come in March, occasionally in February. Farmers aim to give their lambs an early start against parasites and short summer pasture. In former years we always had March lambs, early March.

We want them to come in the barn because there the ewes are "in hand" and we can give individual attention. In one way it would be better to have earlier lambs so they would be big enough to eat more grass when it first starts. Under our scheme the grass goes ahead of the flock when it is at its best. However, we get away from many of the hazards of close confinement—bowel trouble, "lamb cholera," robbing, several brands of infection, sore eyes, etc.

We used to iodine navels the next day and did not bother to clip them. Now we clip them at once and treat the stub as soon as we find the lamb. We attend the flock around every two hours all night. A close pick-up like this avoids much disowning of lambs—our drop running up to 175 per cent most years. We dock later than we used to, so it can be done on a bright day after the stuff goes to the field in the daytime. We aim to bed freely and keep the flock away from the barn as

much as we can when the lambs have these wounds. If we have a ewe with a hoof sore we cut her out or bandage her foot past any possibility of shedding pus. I "kinda" believe that so-called "stiff lamb disease" is a contact infection.

We make a separate band of dropped lambs at the lightest part of the barn. "Inturned" eyelids is a moot question, but light has simplified it for us. Cauterizing just back of the lid with a hot No. 9 wire is effective surgery. Vigorous rubbing back with the thumb is our main dope.

We stock a keg of bicarbonate of soda and mix it up to half-and-half with bag salt for the ewes during lambing and just wouldn't do without it for barn lambing under changeable weather conditions. We never fool with creeps for young lambs.

We shear the ewes a week before they start to drop. The barn must be warm enough, of course. We never "tag" ewes. Lambing out a band of clipped ewes is heaven compared with ewes in the wool. Ticks have disappeared from our flock in recent years—early shearing helps, but the starlings are doubtless mostly responsible.

Our ewes are all home-raised and we run in ewe lambs each fall to the number of one sixth of our breeding flock to replace culls and mortalities. Breeding of our ewes is around half-blood, either Leicester, Lincoln or Cotswold or Merino stock. Our ewe lambs drop the first year. When the lambs are dry both ewe and lamb get a brand and after that there is no straying or getting lost. Instead of a nursing bottle we put crosses on the backs of the extra-heavy milkers and use them for "heavy duty" nurses.

Our grazing land that grows too fast in the spring is now clipped and made into hay early, extra early—it makes good hay. We capsule the whole flock, young and old, the first week in June to hit the early pick-up of worm cysts that went through the winter range. This is all a lot of work, 365 days work, for not so very much money in the end.

Delaware, O.

G. P. Williams

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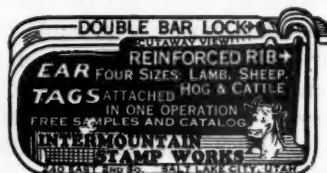


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## The Lamb Markets in January

(Continued from page 52)

\$9.50. Feeders, however, continued to watch with interest for any offerings that might meet their needs.

Trading in ewes was active throughout January. Rates advanced \$1.25@1.50, top reaching \$5.85 for a new high since last May. At the finish, best kinds were bringing \$5.50. Receipts were more plentiful than usual, but never burdensome, most of the offerings coming out of feed lots in excellent condition.

Total receipts for the month were the lightest of any January since 1903, amounting to approximately 108,000 head against 136,100 last year, and 115,200, the previous low for the month, which came in 1935.

Lester H. Hartwig

**Denver**

**F**AT lambs closed the month of January 50 to 75 cents higher while feeder lambs advanced 75 cents to \$1 or more. Ewes were 75 cents to \$1 higher at the close of the month.

Receipts total 188,422 head against 124,645 head during December and 141,573 head in January a year ago.

Early in January, northern Colorado fat lambs sold at \$9.85 while at the close of the month they were bringing around \$10.35. Western Slope and San Luis Valley, Colorado, lambs were selling on a flat basis around \$9.75 to \$10.10. Choice fat lambs again reached \$10.50 FPR early in February.

During the third week of January, which was stock show week, fed lambs reached \$10.50 FPR with the week's bulk going from \$10 to \$10.50. During this week a number of Idaho and Utah lambs sold from \$9.50 to \$10, with a few reaching \$10.25. Late in the month there was a slight decline with best lambs selling at \$10.10 FPR.

Odd feeder lambs sold during the month went mostly from \$9 to \$9.50, with fleshy lambs up to \$9.75. Plain trucked-in feeders sold down to \$8.

Good ewes sold early in January at \$4.50 to \$5.25. Late in the month

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Stream Runs through Center.  
Carries 1300 Ewes for  
Lambing Season.

With or Without Forest Permit.

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Mt. Pleasant, Utah

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Excel all breeds in wool production  
and hardiness

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**THE AMERICAN AND DELAINE**  
**MERINO RECORD ASS'N.**  
GOWDY WILLIAMSON, Secretary  
XENIA, OHIO

### THEY MUST BE SHROPSHIRE

If you want Even-Weight  
Market-Toppers

In Your Lamb Crop

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The Farmer's Dual-Purpose Sheep  
**AMERICAN SHROPSHIRE**  
**REGISTRY ASS'N.**

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ideal combination of wool production and mutton  
carcass. It is adaptable to all conditions. For  
greater profits, breed Corriedales. Write us for  
literature and list of breeders.

**NATIONAL CORRIEDALE SHEEP ASSN.**  
Pure Bred Live Stock Record Bldg.  
Union Stock Yards Chicago, Ill.

choice ewes went from \$4.75 to \$5.60,  
while during show week a top of \$5.75  
FPR was reached.

Colorado was the largest shipper to  
Denver in January, consigning 87,000  
sheep and lambs here. Idaho was next  
with 52,000, Utah third with 35,000,  
and a total of 14,000 head came from  
Wyoming, Texas and Oregon. Idaho  
consigned over four times as many  
sheep and lambs to Denver in January  
this year as a year ago. Utah had  
twice as many here and material in-  
creases were noted from other states.

Included in Denver January receipts  
were over 9,000 head trucked in from  
various Colorado points with many  
truck lots from Wyoming, Nebraska  
and Kansas.

W. N. Fulton

### Kansas City

**J**ANUARY was a \$10 month for  
lambs. On only two days was less  
than even money paid and on two days  
the top was \$10. The other days re-  
corded tops of \$10.25 to \$10.65, with a  
closing top of \$10.40, a net gain of  
90 cents over the December close. The  
high points of the month at \$10.65 came  
on the 21st, 25th and 26th. On four-  
teen days best lambs brought \$10.35  
and above and on most other days  
\$10.25 was paid and \$10.25 to \$10.50  
took the bulk of the good to choice  
western lambs. January made the  
highest average since June and, except  
for the \$10.85 paid last year, the Janu-  
ary top was the highest for the first  
month in any year since 1930. The  
extreme top for the year 1936 was  
\$12.65, paid for new crop lambs in  
April. The top, thus far, for the present  
crop of winter fed lambs rests at  
\$10.65.

In view of the fact that January made  
a \$1 higher average than December,  
the trade is inclined to be optimistic  
about the February market. The move-  
ment of corn-belt fed lambs has been  
liberal since late November. January  
snows and sleet, which covered most  
of the wheat fields of Kansas and Ok-  
lahoma, forced a clean-up of wheat-  
field lambs and now Colorado and  
western states have the bulk of unmar-

## The HOTEL UTAH

Salt Lake City

Seasoned travelers appreciate  
the reasonable prices, the  
cordial hospitality and up-to-  
date appointments of this  
distinguished hotel.

Rooms without bath.....\$2.00 per day  
Rooms with bath.....2.50 and up

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Breeders of

### RAMBOUILLET AND CORRIEDALE SHEEP

Laramie, Wyoming



Yearling Rambouillet Ewe—Champion at Port-  
land International. Weight 253 pounds. Sired  
by Briggs 2081, purchased by us at the  
National Ram Sale.



Two-year-old Corriedale Ram—Champion at  
Portland International and Denver Stock Show.  
Weight 311 pounds. King Bros. Co. 2770,  
sired by imported Guthrie C-28-B.

We Offer

For the Season's Trade

**2000 RAMBOUILLET AND  
CORRIEDALE RAMS**

Also Ewes of Both Breeds

**SOLD SINGLY OR IN CAR LOTS**

**SUFFOLKS**

A very hardy, prolific breed. The ewes are heavy milkers and the lambs grow very rapidly, being easy feeders. Excellent for cross-breeding. For literature and list of breeders near you, write

**NATIONAL SUFFOLK SHEEP ASSOCIATION**  
Pure Bred Live Stock Records Bldg.  
Union Stock Yards Chicago, Ill.

**HAMPSHIRE**

**The Hardy, Husky, Handsome  
Sheep. Raise Them for Mut-  
ton and Profit. Market  
Lambs in 100 Days.**

For hardiness of constitution, strength and vigor of lambs, quick development and fitness for market, the Hampshire stands at the top.

Illustrated booklet and breeders' list on request.

**WRITE**

**American Hampshire Sheep  
Association**

72 WOODLAND AVE. DETROIT, MICH.  
Helen Tyler Belote, Secretary

Frank Brown, President Carlton, Oregon

**THE AMERICAN  
SUFFOLK SHEEP SOCIETY**

**MERITS OF SUFFOLK SHEEP**

Early maturity, hardiness, lean meat, and fecundity. Suffolk rams are excellent for crossing. Produce high quality market lambs at early age.

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S. P. Neilson, Nephi, Utah.

For History of the Breed, List of Members, Pedigree Blanks, Etc., Address the Secretary.

**American Corriedale Assn.**

The best breed for combined lamb and wool production.

Association organized in 1915. Membership fee \$10. Registration fee 50 cents.

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Vice President, L. L. Crane, Santa Rosa, Calif.; Director, J. H. King, Laramie, Wyo.;  
Secretary-Treasurer, Fredrick S. Hultz, 1007 Sheridan St., Laramie, Wyoming.

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M. H. Karker.....Barrington, Illinois  
A. C. Gould.....Estelline, South Dakota  
For Booklet Address the Secretary

keted lambs and their total number is less than a year ago. Thus, from a supply situation, it looks as if February offerings will be less than the January supply, which in itself is a bullish feature for the market.

For the past ten years, honors as to high prices have been about evenly divided between January and February. Last year the February market was lower than the January market, but February supplied more fat cattle, lambs and hogs than January. From all indications February this year will be short on all three classes. The United States Bureau of Agricultural Economics estimated that on January 1, there were 23 per cent fewer cattle and about 6 per cent fewer lambs on feed in the central states than a year earlier. In relation to the supplies on feed, January marketings were heavy, thus indicating decreased runs for the next sixty days.

Wool is a very strong factor in the sheep market. Demand is in good volume with quotations inclined to show a rising tendency. Prospects are that this year's clip will move at higher prices than last year's. Our most stable markets for fat sheep and lambs come during periods when wool prices are high enough to carry a substantial share of the live-weight cost instead of throwing the entire cost burden on meat.

It is also anticipated that the Nation-Wide Mid-Winter Lamb Sale supported by chain and independent stores, packers, lamb feeders and raisers to secure larger outlet for dressed lamb and mutton will have a beneficial result. Due to the fact that per capita consumption of ovine meat is so much less than that of beef or pork, there is a corresponding possibility of increasing outlet for dressed lamb in larger percentages than beef and pork.

With the exception of a few short periods, strong to heavy-weight lambs, during the past sixty days, have not met any price discrimination. In years of short feed crops, weight seems to be an attractive feature, but the trade now is absorbing a much heavier lamb than it was presented with ten to fifteen years ago. A considerable portion

**The  
American Rambouillet  
Sheep Breeders'  
Association**

(Incorporated in 1919 under laws of Ohio)

Organized in 1889

**Over 350,000 Rambouillets Now  
on Record**

**Membership Fee \$10.00**

American Rambouillets are dual purpose sheep, producing an excellent quality of both wool and mutton.

In addition to playing a most important part in the sheep industry of the United States, they have been exported to nearly every country in the world.

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Frank Bullard.....Woodland, Calif.

For history of the breed, list of members, rules, pedigree blanks, etc., address the Secretary.



of the weight is accounted for in the production of larger type lambs. The Englishman likes his fat lamb, live weight, to be above 120 pounds. Though carcass size in the United States is tending upward, the American trade is inclined to insist on less than 95-pound averages.

One lot of new crop lambs from Kansas, weighing 78 pounds, brought \$11 a hundred pounds, the middle of January. These, of course, were fall lambs, but they made a new early date for marketing in this section and to some degree indicate that lambing dates are being set forward in central sections much the same as they have been moved up in Arizona and California areas.

Outside of ewes the sheep supply was limited. Ewes arrived in fairly good volume. The market rose more than \$1.50 in the first two weeks in January and then eased off about 50 cents to close with a net advance of \$1. Late in December best ewes brought \$4.50. At the high point in January \$6 was recorded, and on the close \$5.50 was the prevailing top. Wool was a big factor in ewe prices. A few bunches of short-fed yearlings brought \$8 to \$9 and two and three-year-old wethers moved at \$5.50 to \$6.50. It looks as if the supply of fat ewes has been cleaned up closely, except some that were late going on feed. There is a ready demand for any and all breeding ewes offered, in fact it is hard to get good young ewes. There seems to be practically no liquidation of breeding flocks in any sections.

Total receipts in January were 164,020, compared with 107,000 in the first month last year. This was an increase of 57,020, or 53 per cent. The arrivals came from Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and Nebraska. Nearby territory contributed decreased supplies, but Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming made up the increases. January movements substantiated the government estimate that there were fewer lambs on feed in the eastern plains states and more on feed in western sections.

C. M. Pipkin

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on Range and Pasture.....4.50

Sampson's Native American

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Gilfillan's Sheep .....2.50

### For Sale By

National Wool Growers Assn.

509 McCornick Building

Salt Lake City, Utah

## Bounty Favored in Coyote Control

IN regards to the coyote question, I wish to state that I have been handling and running sheep for the past 25 years and at no time have I ever seen coyotes so destructive as they have been the past year. Some years ago we had a state bounty law here, and while that was in force the coyote was just about killed off; in fact, they were so well killed off that damage from them was practically nothing. Since the bounty was taken off they have been increasing every year till they do a lot of damage.

The cheapest, and the only way to fight them successfully, is through a bounty law, and it should be a federal law.

Government trappers get coyotes, of course, but they do not get enough to help any and the cost is three to five times what a bounty would cost, and a bounty law will bring results right now.

Most private trappers will not kill a coyote unless the pelt is good and if they are only trapped for a short time in the fall, the coyote has too good a chance to increase. The government trappers trap all the year round, but they are too few and each man does not get enough coyotes to do much good.

If the same money which is being paid the government trappers were put into a bounty fund, we would get about five times as many coyotes, as a bounty law induces men to catch coyotes at all times of the year, male and females alike, and they also get lots of pups and that is what counts.

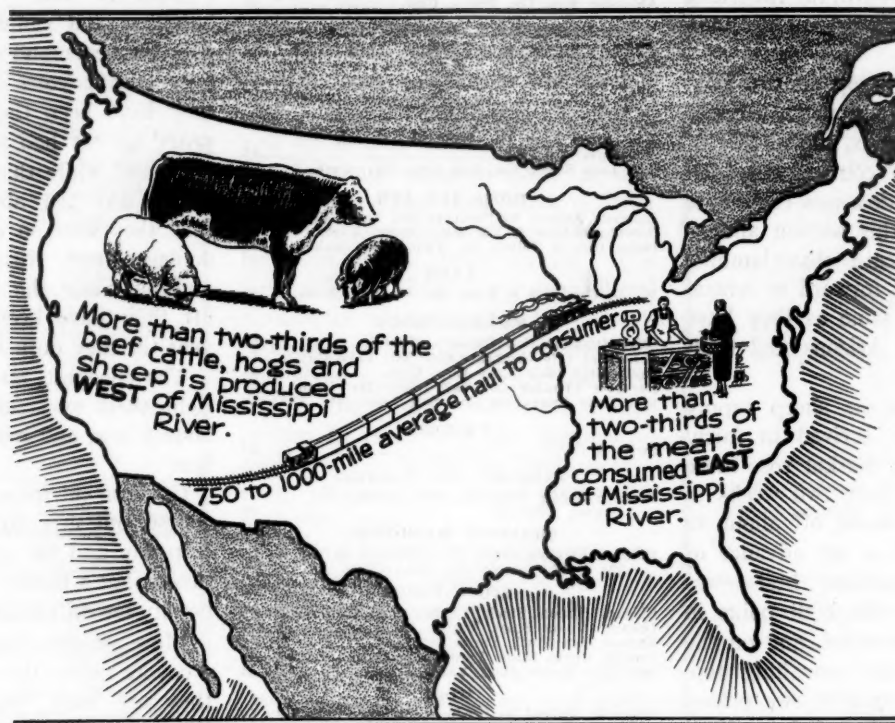
I was in the sheep business before we had a bounty, was in during the bounty and am in the business now, and the only time we had any rest from the coyotes was while the bounty law was in existence.

I estimate that the coyote causes me a loss of \$1500 to \$2000 a year. I would like to see the bounty come back and get rid of these killers.

Roberts, Oregon

J. A. Pausch

# MILES MAKE A DIFFERENCE



[ Over a period of years, Swift & Company's net profits from all sources have averaged only a fraction of a cent per pound. ]

**M**ORE than two-thirds of the beef cattle, hogs, and sheep of the United States is produced west of the Mississippi River. On the other hand, more than two-thirds of the meat from these animals is consumed east of it.

This means that the products handled by Swift & Company must on the average be transported between 750 and 1,000 miles—the distance from producer to consumer.

Contrast this with the distance products are transported in most European countries. Denmark, for example, is only 200 miles from north to south, which is the long way. From the center of Denmark to London, England, is about 400 miles. Products between these two countries are moved largely by boat, which is a cheap form of transportation. With these shorter distances and cheaper but slower transportation methods, it is no wonder that their transportation costs are less.

Notwithstanding this, the efficiency in the

packing business of the United States enables it to return to producers from 75 to 85¢ out of every average dollar that it receives for its meats and by-products. During 1936, the money that Swift & Company received for its meats, butter, eggs, poultry, cheese, hides, glands, sheepskins, and dozens of other products and by-products was paid out as follows:

76.0	cents	went to producers of livestock and other agricultural products
10.6	"	went for Labor (Including wages and salaries)
3.4	"	went for Transportation
.2	"	went for Interest
4.1	"	went for Supplies
4.2	"	went for Rents, Taxes, Refrigeration, Insurance, Pensions, Traveling, Telephone, Telegraph, Stationery, Depreciation and other expense items
		Balance remaining with Swift & Company:
1.5	"	Net Earnings
100	cents	

## Swift & Company

*In daily touch with every meat, dairy and poultry consuming city, town, and hamlet in the United States*